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# Report on Public Baths and Public Comfort Stations

JANUARY, 1897

PUBLISHED BY THE MAYOR'S COM-  
MITTEE ON PUBLIC BATHS AND PUE-  
LIC COMFORT STATIONS, NEW YORK  
CITY.

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CITY OF NEW YORK

THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE

PUBLIC BATHS and PUBLIC COMFORT STATIONS

APPOINTED BY MAYOR WILLIAM L. STRONG, JULY 5TH, 1895.

WM. GASTON HAMILTON, C.E., Chairman


MOREAU MORRIS, M.D., Vice-Chairman

WM. HOWE TOLMAN, Ph.D., Secretary

105 East 22d St., New York City

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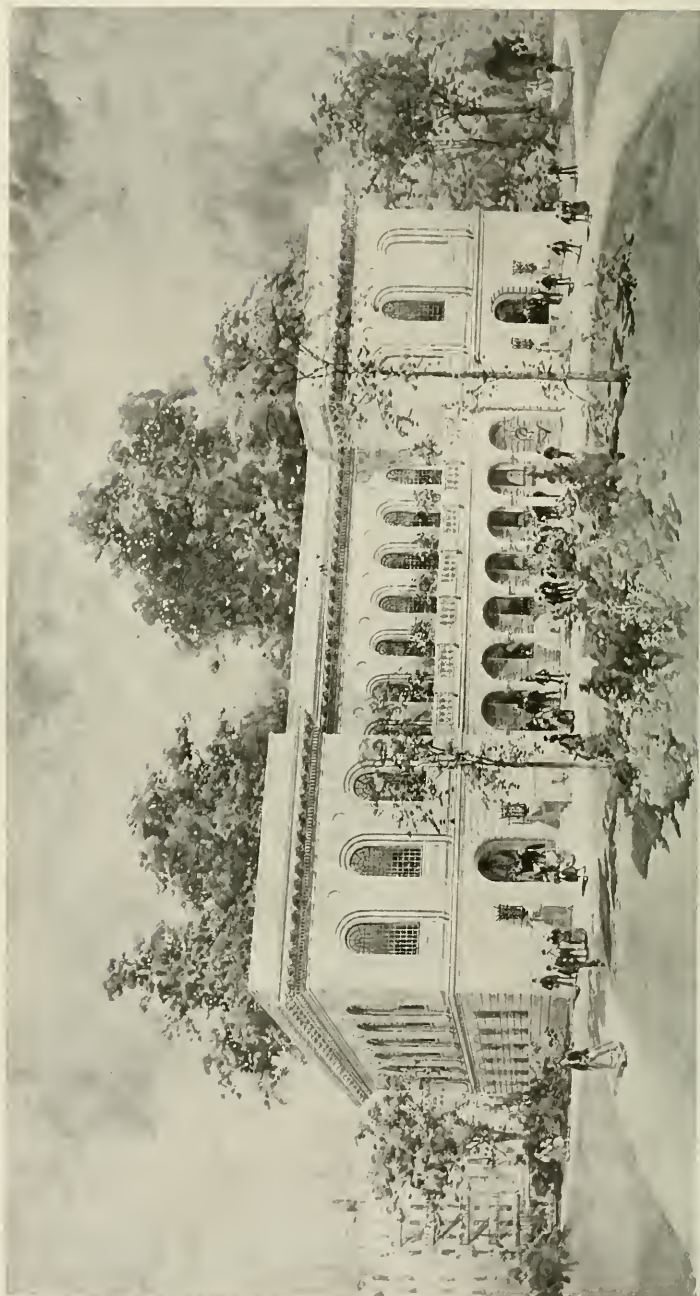
*Wm. H. Tolman.*



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CADY, BERG & SEE, ARCHITECTS,  
31 EAST 17TH ST., NEW YORK CITY.

**PROPOSED PUBLIC BATH** (INCLUDING A PUBLIC LAUNDRY AND TWO PUBLIC COMFORT STATIONS) FOR TOMPKINS SQUARE, SUGGESTED BY THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE  
ON PUBLIC BATHS, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE MANDATORY LEGISLATION OF MARCH 25, 1898, COMPELLING ITS LOCATION IN A PUBLIC PARK.

REPORT  
ON  
PUBLIC BATHS  
AND  
PUBLIC COMFORT STATIONS

BY  
THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE  
OF NEW YORK CITY.



NEW YORK CITY.

—  
1897.

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THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE :

WILLIAM GASTON HAMILTON, C.E.,

MOREAU MORRIS, M.D.,

WILLIAM HOWE TOLMAN, Ph.D.

OCT 30 1943

## Table of Contents.

Chapter.	Page.
I Introductory .....	11
II The Mayor's Committee on Public Baths and Public Comfort Stations .....	21
III Bath Legislation Regarding New York City Since 1800 .....	26
IV Public Baths of New York .....	35
V Swimming Clubs and the Swimming Bath as a Means of Recreation .....	43
VI The Spray Bath and Spray Baths in the Public Schools .....	54
VII Municipal Baths in America .....	61
VIII Municipal System of Foreign Baths .....	68
IX The Administration of European Baths .....	120
X Public Laundries .....	134
XI Public Comfort Stations .....	142
XII Recommendations of the Mayor's Committee:— Plans and Studies for	
(a) Bath on a Site 100x50 feet .....	163
(b) Proposed Bath for Tompkins Square, including a Muni- cipal Laundry and Two Public Comfort Stations .....	168
(c) Underground Public Comfort Stations:	
City Hall Park .....	176
Greeley Square Park, Thirty-third Street and Broad- way .....	176
Suggestions for	
(a) Chalets for the Parks .....	177
(b) Stations Under the Elevated Railway Stairs .....	177
(c) Structures Within the Area Line and the Dead Wall of Buildings .....	177
XIII Bibliography .....	181

## List of Illustrations.

---

	Facing Page
Proposed Bath for Tompkins Square, New York City, .....	1
Swimming Pool in the Baths of Diocletian .....	12
Hall in the Baths of Caracalla .....	12
Front of Proposed Baths on a Site 100x50 .....	28
Bath-room on the Floating Hospital of the St. John's Guild .....	36
The "Ring," one form of the Spray or Shower Bath at the People's Baths .....	36
The People's Baths, 9 Centre Market Place .....	36
First-Class Swimming Pool, Hornsey Road, Islington, London ....	44
Swimming Pool for Women, Hornsey Road, Islington, London ....	44
Amateur Swimming Club, London .....	53
Newport, England, Swimming Pool as a Gymnasium .....	53
Swimming Pool, Brookline Public Baths .....	61
First Floor Plan, Brookline Public Baths .....	61
Brookline Public Bath .....	68
Yonkers Public Bath .....	84
Deptford, England, Public Baths, Washhouses and Municipal Buildings .....	92
Shoreditch, England, Public Bathhouse and Public Library .....	92
Opening Exercises of the Public Baths at Essex Road, Islington, London .....	100
Ground Plan of Birmingham's Latest Public Bath .....	100
Laundry Hung up to Dry in One-Room Apartment .....	132
Household Effects of a Family Living in One Room.....	132
Mangling Room, Hornsey Road Laundry, London .....	140
Drying Room, Hornsey Road Laundry, London .....	140
Proposed Public Comfort Station for Greeley Square .....	148
Underground Lavatory (interior), Charing Cross, London .....	156
Suggested Public Comfort Stations under the Elevated Stairways..	164
Suggested Public Comfort Station, within area line .....	164
Cottage Baths, Brighton, England .....	172
Proposed Public Comfort Station for Parks .....	172
Plan of Basement Floor of Proposed Baths, on a site 100x50 .....	180
Plan of Ground Floor of Proposed Baths, on a site 100x50 .....	180
Plan of Upper Floor of Proposed Baths, on a site 100x50.....	180
Longitudinal Section of Proposed Baths, on a site 100x50 .....	180
Cross Section of Proposed Baths, on a site 100x50.....	180
Newington, England, Public Baths and Washhouses.....	197



## PREFACE.

The Mayor's Committee, whose final report is herewith presented, was appointed by his Honor, the Mayor of New York City, William L. Strong, in July, 1895, as an Advisory Committee, to continue the study of the subject of Public Baths and Public Comfort Stations, upon which it had already reported to the Committee of Seventy as its sub-committee on this special subject. This preliminary report had been accepted and approved by that Committee, and was published by it in pamphlet form. In pursuance of this study, as requested by the Mayor, the Committee became so deeply impressed with the imperative necessity of an adequate municipal provision of Baths and Public Comfort Stations for New York City, that it collected the latest and best information in relation to these matters, so that New York might have the latest system of Public Baths and Public Comfort Stations.

**Advisory  
Status.**

New York claims the honor to have had the first Public Bath in the United States using the spray or rain water system, for hot and cold water, *open the year round*. This public bath was made possible by the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, who erected a bath house, where a nominal fee of five cents was charged for its maintenance.

Since August 17, 1891, the People's Baths, under the care of this Association, have been a successful object lesson, having furnished 401,000 baths, more than 90 per cent. of which have been paid for by those who have used them. The operation of a public bath, being clearly a municipal function, should not be left to the care of a private philanthropy.

**Successful  
Object  
Lesson.**

The Committee is deeply sensible of the interest which Mayor Strong has shown in its work. The results of two years' study are presented in the accompanying report, and

the Committee may be allowed to state that the following plans and studies suggested and formulated by the Committee have been favorably received.

1. The Board of Health of the Health Department has the honor to have approved, August 20, 1895, a full set of plans and specifications for a bath house, to be built on a city lot 100 by 50 feet.

2. The same Board has also approved one hundred Public Comfort Stations.

3. General C. H. T. Collis, Commissioner of Public Works, has likewise approved a full set of plans and specifications for a Public Bath, which was intended to have been located in Tompkins Square. He has also approved two underground public comfort stations, one to be located in the City Hall Park, the other in the small park in Greeley Square.

4. The passage of mandatory legislation, March 25, 1896, appropriated \$200,000 for buildings for Public Baths and Comfort Stations.

The action of Mayor Strong in naming an Advisory Committee on Baths has been since followed by the Honorable Josiah Quincy, the Mayor of Boston, and the Honorable Emory N. Yard, the Mayor of Trenton.

In the age of Augustus, the Roman who stood nearest the Emperor did not consider it beneath his dignity to present a public bath to his city. In these days, when wealth is abounding on every hand, and men and women are desirous of leaving a worthy memorial, what larger social service could be rendered than the erection and equipment of a public bath? If such a benefaction was honored in the days of Rome, surely there are merchant princes in our American cities whose public spirit will make possible a monument to the lasting honor of their own municipality.

The Committee begs to acknowledge the cordial coöperation of the Board of Managers of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, and would especially extend its thanks to the firm of Messrs. Cady, Berg & See, architects and engineers, for their expert advice and for the plans and studies.

It would also express earnest acknowledgments to the Mayors and public officials of English and Con-

**Under-  
ground  
Public  
Comfort  
Stations.**

**Worthy  
Memorial.**

**Acknowl-  
edgments.**

tinental cities, who have placed at the disposal of the Committee plans, drawings, special reports and expert advice, particularly H. Montague Bates, Principal Clerk to the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London; Job Cox, Superintendent and Engineer of the Baths Department, City of Birmingham, and Chief Engineer Andreas Meyer, of Hamburg.

(Signed) WILLIAM GASTON HAMILTON,  
MOREAU MORRIS,  
WILLIAM HOWE TOLMAN,  
Committee.



# Report on Public Baths and Public Comfort Stations.

## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTORY.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor, New York City.  
Sir:—

Your Committee takes pleasure in submitting the accompanying report, in accordance with your request of June 25th, 1895, "to continue investigation regarding baths and lavatories and see if some means cannot be devised for erecting and trying at once some of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of the Committee of Seventy." It is needless to mention the imperative necessity of a sufficient number of free public baths in a great city like New York. The fact that there is not a single municipal public bath open the year round in New York is significant. New York and other American cities are far behind those of Europe, especially London, Birmingham, Glasgow, Paris and Berlin, in the municipal provision which is made for the comfort and welfare of all the component parts of their citizenship.

There are numerous indications that American cities are proceeding to take under advisement these provisions for public comfort, and it is particularly gratifying to your Committee that the movement in many cases came from the impulse which you have given to civic betterment in New York City.

This report to your Honor may seem to have been delayed unduly, indicated by the fact that the press and individuals have had so much interest in the subject of Baths, that they have made specific inquiry of you, when it would appear, but it should be brought to your notice that the subject entrusted to your Committee had to be studied from the very beginning, and the great volume of information was sought from English and Continental cities; in other words, outside of the reports of baths made possible by a few great philanthropies, there was no information to be derived from the cities of the United States. Accordingly your Com-

**Free  
Public  
Baths.**

**Great  
Philan-  
thropies.**

mittee put itself in communication with Mayors and other officials in the capital cities of England and Europe; the courtesy of their replies and the wealth of illustrative material sent it, has placed it in a position to present to you a digest of the latest, hence the best, experience of the civilized world. From a study of this experience your Honor can satisfy himself on the soundness of the conclusions and recommendations of your Committee.

At this point attention should be directed to the following tabulation for the city of London as an evidence of the provisions of that municipality in response to popular demands for baths. It will be noted that this study was made in 1892, and indicates the extensive provisions made for the city of London alone.

## PUBLIC BATHS AND WASH HOUSES, 1891-2.

Locality.	Cost of Water.	Bathers.	Washers.
Battersea .....	£258	not stated	not stated
Bermondsey .....	262	118,368 '92-93	24,947 '92-93
Bloomsbury .....	237	not stated	not stated
Chelsea .....		Baths not then	opened.
Greenwich .....		not stated	not stated
Hampstead .....	372	93,623	not stated
Islington .....		Baths not then	opened.
Kensington .....	327	not stated	not stated
Lewisham .....	412	92,045 '92-93	not stated
Paddington .....	405	179,784	19,639
Poplar .....	185	116,738 '93-94	9,293 '93-94
Rotherhithe .....	214	not stated	not stated
St. George-in-the-East .....	134	74,038	not stated
St. George, Hanover Square .....	830	240,508	44,789
St. Giles, Camberwell .....		Baths not then	opened.
St. Martin-in-the-Fields .....	251	57,111	35,340
St. Marylebone .....	411	142,667	38,959
St. Pancras .....	899	117,882	66,182
St. Margaret and St. John .....	158	not stated	not stated
Whitechapel .....	385	134,697	20,563
St. James, Westminster .....	382	107,257	49,171
Total .....	£6,122	1,474,718	308,883

It should be stated at this point that your Committee means by a public bath an establishment under the control of the municipality, where a hot or cold bath may be obtained at any time during the year. Such a public bath may be free or fees may be charged, the latter practice obtaining in nearly all of the cities of the world. If the city provides the plant, those using it should pay for that privilege. This is the part of wisdom, because the idea of charity should be mainly eliminated from a public bath,





and the operating expenses will be nearly met by the fees. The present law provides for a free public bath, but a fee may be charged for the use of towels and soap; a certain part of each bath, say 15 or 25 per cent., may be absolutely free.

There are not more than four public baths under the control of cities in the United States; but that your Honor may realize that the conditions are not much worse in New York than in some of the other large municipalities, and that the needs are none the less imperative, an excerpt from the Seventh Special Report of the United States Commissioner of Labor is submitted.

New  
York's  
Needs.

"New York.—(1) Starting from the corner of Centre and Worth, along Centre to Leonard, along Leonard to Baxter, along Baxter to Canal, along Canal to Centre, along Centre to Hester, along Hester to Mulberry, along Mulberry to Spring, along Spring to Elizabeth, along Elizabeth to Canal, along Canal to Bowery, along Bowery to Worth, and along Worth to Centre.

"(2) Starting from the corner of Broome and Broadway, along Broadway to East Houston, along East Houston to Elizabeth, along Elizabeth to Prince, along Prince to Marion, along Marion to Spring, along Spring to Crosby, along Crosby to Broome and along Broome to Broadway."

POPULATION OF THE SLUM DISTRICTS CANVASSED.

City.	June 1, 1890. (Eleventh Census).	April 1, 1893.
Baltimore .....	16,878	18,048
Chicago .....	17,637	19,748
New York .....	27,462	28,996
Philadelphia .....	15,409	17,060
Total .....	77,386	83,852

NUMBER AND PER CENT. OF FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN  
HOUSES OR TENEMENTS HAVING AND NOT  
HAVING BATH ROOMS.

City.	Population of Houses or Tenements having Bath Rooms.				Population of Houses or Tenements not having Bath Rooms.			
	Number		Per cent.		Number.		Per cent.	
	Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.	Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.	Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.	Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.
Baltimore ...	296	1,663	7.35	9.21	3,732	16,385	92.65	90.79
Chicago ...	110	748	2.83	3.79	3,771	19,000	97.17	96.21
New York ..	138	1,888	2.33	6.51	5,774	27,108	97.67	93.49
Philadelphia	560	3,080	16.90	18.05	2,753	13,980	83.10	81.95

NUMBER AND PER CENT. OF FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN  
HOUSES OR TENEMENTS HAVING WATER CLOSETS  
OR PRIVIES.

City.	Population of Houses or Tenements having Water Closets.				Population of Houses or Tenements having Privies.			
	Number.		Per cent.		Number.		Per cent.	
	Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.	Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.	Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.	Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.
Baltimore ..	486	2,637	12.07	14.61	3,542	15,411	87.93	85.39
Chicago ....	1,027	5,492	26.46	27.81	2,854	14,256	73.54	72.19
New York ..	2,797	14,716	47.31	50.75	3,115	14,280	52.69	49.25
Philadelphia	1,006	5,473	30.37	32.08	2,307	11,587	69.63	67.92

**17 Bath  
Rooms  
for 480  
Houses.**

An additional investigation, comprehending 480 houses in the New York slum districts canvassed, was made in order to ascertain how many persons in each house were compelled to use the same bathrooms, water closets and privies. Out of a total of 480 houses visited for this purpose in New York, but seventeen had bathrooms. The average number of persons to a bathroom in the houses having bathrooms was 8.14 in New York. The table itself shows the details for each specified number of persons to a bathroom in each house. It should be borne in mind that these figures refer only to the houses having bathrooms, 96.67 per cent. of the houses investigated in New York being entirely without such accommodations. The average number of persons compelled to use the same water closet or privy was 10.52 persons in New York. This average, although for but a small portion of the slum district of New York, is thought to be fairly representative of the whole. The table relating to bathrooms follows:

NUMBER OF PERSONS TO A BATHROOM.

3 or under	4	.....	2	13 or under	14	.....	1
4 or under	5	.....	3	15 or under	16	.....	1
5 or under	6	.....	2	24 or under	25	.....	1
6 or under	7	.....	3	110 or under	111	.....	1
7 or under	8	.....	1				
11 or under	12	.....	1	Total houses	.....		17
12 or under	13	.....	1				

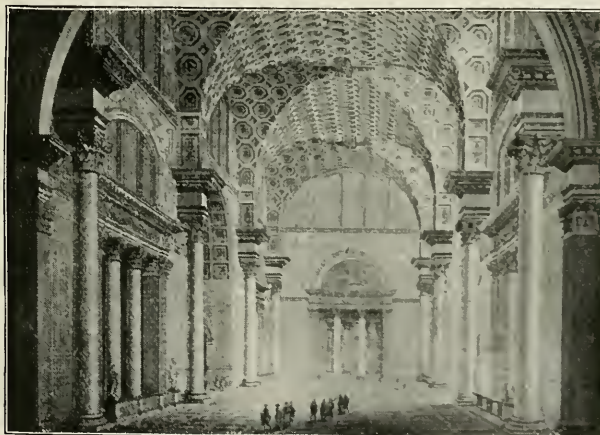
In the 480 houses inspected in New York 91 had water closets, 363 privies, and 26 both water closets and privies.

NUMBER OF PERSONS TO A WATER CLOSET OR PRIVY.

Under 1	.....	3	4 or under	5	.....	23	
1 or under	2	.....	11	5 or under	6	.....	26
2 or under	3	.....	14	6 or under	7	.....	35
3 or under	4	.....	27	7 or under	8	.....	40



The Swimming Pool in the Baths of Diocletian in Classic Rome. In this establishment 3,200 bathers could be accommodated at once. The proposed bath at Tompkins Square would have accommodated 96 at one time. It was stated, on the authority of Pliny, that for 600 years Rome needed no medicine but the public baths.



A Hall in the Baths of Caracalla (Rome). A.D. 212. 1,600 bathers could be accommodated at one time. One hall in the Baths of Diocletian was made by Michael Angelo into the Church of S. Maria de gli Angeli.



8 or under 9	37	22 or under 23	2
9 or under 10	45	24 or under 25	4
10 or under 11	41	27 or under 28	3
11 or under 12	35	28 or under 29	2
12 or under 13	21	30 or under 31	3
13 or under 14	23	31 or under 32	2
14 or under 15	18	32 or under 33	1
15 or under 16	15	34 or under 35	1
16 or under 17	5	41 or under 42	1
17 or under 18	11	43 or under 44	1
18 or under 19	8	67 or under 68	1
19 or under 20	9		
20 or under 21	4	*Total houses	489
21 or under 22	5		

Flotsam  
and  
Jetsam.

A system of public baths is an imperative need, not only as a means of healthful living, but also as a necessity for counteracting the unsanitary conditions of the occupants of the lodging houses. Public safety demands an adequate system of public baths. The majority of the patrons of lodging houses is the lower classes, the flotsam and jetsam of a great city; because they are so low, they are dirty and unclean. The tendency of the lodging house is downwards, and the environment is such as keeps a man vicious. Until the city authorities insist on the strictest control of the lodging houses, or build municipal lodging houses, the patrons of many of the present lodging houses are a menace to the sanitary safety of the community. That your Honor may realize the perils of the lodging houses, merely from the sanitary viewpoint, because of their inadequate provisions for the means of a cleansing bath, we append the salient facts regarding the lodging houses, from a report made to us in December, 1894, through the courtesy of Hon. Charles G. Wilson, President of the Health Department.

#### BATHING ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED BY LODGING HOUSES.

December 26, 1894.

	Lodgers Allowed.	Number of Bath Tubs.	Number of Showers.	Bath Tubs, etc., with hot water.	Average Use Daily.	Free or Paid For.
1	107	2	none	yes	20	free
2	105	none	"	none	none	none
3	168	"	"	"	"	"
4	150	1	"	yes	10	free
5	319	3	"	"	25	"
6	157	1	2	"	15	"
7	185	1	none	"	10	"
8	133	none	"	none	none	none
9	189	"	"	"	"	"
10	90	"	"	"	"	"

\*Seventh Special Report of the Commissioner of Labor. The Slums of Baltimore, Chicago, New York and Philadelphia. Carroll D. Wright. Washington. 1894.



	Lodgers Allowed.	Number of Bath Tubs.	Number of Showers.	Bath Tubs, etc. with hot water.	Average Use Daily.	Free or Paid For.
11	255	2	none	Tubs, yes	5 to 6	free
12	180	2	"	"	12 to 15	"
13	198	none	"	none	none	none
14	136	3	"	Tubs, yes	6	free
15	82	none	"	none	none	none
16	270	"	"	"	"	"
17	150	2	"	yes	10	free
18	195	2	"	"	12	"
19	135	1	"	"	1	"
20	105	1	"	"	2	"
21	105	none	"	none	none	none
22	90	"	"	"	"	"
23	56	"	"	"	"	"
24	94	"	"	"	"	"
25	120	1	"	yes	5	free
26	389	2	"	"	7	"
27	210	2	"	"	15	free
28	206	1	"	"	15	"
29	121	1	"	"	12	"
30*	270	3	"	"	2	"
31*	61	none	"	none	none	none
32	126	1	"	"		paid for
33	150	2	"	yes	12	free
34	85	none	"	none	none	none
35	71	1	"	yes	10	free
36	285	2	"	"	25	"
37	75	none	"	none	none	none
38	120	1	"	yes	3	free
39	194	none	"	none	none	none
40	271	2	"	Tubs, yes	12	free
41	77	none	"	none	none	none
42	103	"	"	"	"	"
43	107	"	"	"	"	"
44	317	"	"	"	"	"
45	116	"	"	"	"	"
46	134	1	"	yes	3	free
47	143	1	"	"	3	"
48	49	vacant				
49	38	none	"	none	none	none
50	38	1	"	yes	2	free
51	150	1	"	"	3	"
52	281	none	"	none	none	none
53	14	"	"	"	"	"
54	137	4	"	yes	20	free
55	146	2	"	"	6	"
56	112	1	"	"	4	"
57	172	1	"	"	9	"
58	132	none	"	none	none	none
59	176	1	"	yes	5	free
60	17	none	"	none	none	none
61	147	"	"	"	"	"
62	101	1	"	yes	"	free
63	292	none	"	none	"	none
64	180	1	"	yes	3 to 5]	free
65	143	1	"	"	7	
66	75	1 not in use				
67	73	none	"	none	none	none
68	152	2	"	yes	7	free
69*	104	none	"	none	none	none

\* Revoked.



	Lodgers Allowed.	Number of Bath Tubs.	Number of Showers.	Bath Tubs, etc. with hot water.	Average Use Daily.	Free or Paid For.
70	68	none	none	none	none	none
71	145	"	"	"	"	"
72	62	"	"	"	"	"
73	202	1	"	yes	1 a week	
74	103	none	"	none	none	none
75	89	1	"	yes	3	free
76	95	none	"	none	none	none
77	220	"	"	"	"	"
78	68	"	"	"	"	"
79	145	2	"	yes	2	1 free, 1 pay
80	15	none	"	none	none	none
81	186	"	"	"	"	"
82	145	7	"	yes	10	free
83	45	none	"	none	none	none
84	305	"	"	"	"	"
85	28	"	"	"	"	"
86	143	"	2	yes	8	free
87	30	"	none	none	none	none
88	30	"	"	"	"	"
89	21	"	"	"	"	"
90	116	1	"	yes	7	free
91	139	1	"	"	2	"
92	90	1	"	"	2	"
93	120	1	"	"	2	"
94	75	1	"	"	30	"
95	113	none	"	none	none	none
96	167	"	"	"	"	"
97	252	"	"	"	"	"
98	146	2	"	yes	10	free
99	238	none	"	none	none	none
100	44	2	"	yes	30	free
101	24	none	"	none	none	none
102	69	1	"	"	"	free
103	24	none	"	"	"	none
104	368	1	"	yes	6	5c chgd.
105	330	1	"	"	15	free
106	100	none	7	"	60	"
107	108	3	1	"	10	"
108	32	1	none	"	2	"
109	92	3	"	"	12	"
110	166	2	"	"	12	"
111	46	none	"	none	none	none
112	68	"	"	"	"	"
113	295	3	"	yes	2	free
114	25	1	"	"	none	"
115	142	none	"	none	"	none

Total number of lodging houses (less 3 revoked)....	112
Total number of lodgers allowed in same .....	15,233
Total number without baths of any kind .....	55
Total number of lodgers allowed in these .....	6,372
Total number of houses with baths .....	57
Total number of baths in these .....	95
Total number of lodgers allowed in these .....	8,861
Total number of baths with hot water .....	56
Average daily use of baths (total) .....	546
Free baths .....	54
Baths paid for .....	3

**Water  
and a  
Tub.**

That the mere provision of water and a tub is not always a sufficient inducement for a cleansing bath, is evidenced by the replies of some of the patrons of the lodging houses, when asked their opinion of the bathing accommodations. These replies will corroborate the recommendations of your Committee that the municipal baths should have a sufficient number of paid attendants.

The following are among the reasons given by lodging-house men for not using the baths in the house where they sleep.

C. D.—“The tubs can only be used from 5 A. M. to 7 A. M.”

J. M.—“The shower baths are the best for taking the dirt off a fellow.”

R. G.—“The tubs are never cleaned out from the appearance of them.”

T. W.—“Can't get a good wash without hot water.”

W. B.—“The tubs are only an advertisement for the house, not clean.”

F. S.—“Find too many old medicine bottles for my taste.”

P. M.—“Not enough hot water.”

J. L.—“Do not like tub baths.”

B.—“Bad enough to sleep in a lodging house, without using their tub baths.”

In June, 1884, an act was passed providing for a commission to inquire into the character and condition of tenement houses in the city of New York. From its careful study of the existing condition, the commission quickly reached the conclusion that free winter baths were a necessity to improve the condition of the tenement house quarter. January 14, 1885, the Commission forwarded its preliminary report to the Legislature. Among other recommendations was the following, which was proposed by the Secretary of the Commission, Moreau Morris, M. D.

“An Act (Chapter 448, Laws of 1884), passed June 2, 1884, to provide for a commission to inquire into the character and condition of tenement houses in the City of New York.

“1. Alexander Shaler, Joseph O. Drexel, Oswald Ottendorfer, Moreau Morris, Anthony Reichardt, Joseph O'Donohue, Abbott Hodgman, Charles F. Wingate and William P. Easterbrook are hereby appointed a Commission to investigate and inquire into the character and condition of tenement houses, lodging houses and cellars in the City of New York, etc., etc., etc.

**Winter  
Baths.**

"19. Free Winter Baths.—That the city shall establish free winter baths throughout the tenement house districts of the city."\*

Very cheap baths have been recently established in the poorer quarters of London with great success. We already have free summer baths which have proved a blessing; during three months of 1883 more than 2,000,000 baths were taken in those establishments. Free winter baths would greatly enhance the cleanliness of the tenement house population, would lessen the danger of diseases, and would be one safeguard against the spread of epidemics.

During the existence of the sub-committee of the Committee of Seventy on Baths and Lavatories, the Tenement House Committee of 1894 presented its report to the Legislature.

The Tenement House Committee of 1894, which was appointed in accordance with law, was organized under the chairmanship of Richard Watson Gilder, and Edward Marshall as Secretary. Very early in its inquiries, it was confronted with the problem of public baths. It was the opinion of the Committee that it is evident that the bathing habit is growing among the masses of the people, and it is also evident that the practice stands greatly in need of encouragement by means of increased opportunities.

**Gilder  
Committee.**

The Secretary reports that out of a total population of 255,033 covered by the committee's inspection, only 306 persons have access to bathrooms in the houses in which they live. The only way in which the occupants of tenement houses can bathe is by using a tub of some kind, filled from the faucet in the kitchen or from that in the hall, or with water carried up from the yard. It is apparent that such conditions as these do not encourage the practice of bathing. Nor is this all. The number of rooms occupied by a family in a tenement house is generally so small that every inch of space is occupied. Even when the occupants are willing to incur the labor of carrying water from the faucet in the hall or from the yard, it is difficult to secure the privacy which is necessary for the bath.

**No  
Privacy.**

It is thus evident that though the number of baths taken at various bathing places in the city may be large in the aggregate, the persons who actually bathe are not numerous, and the great majority of the tenement house population is not yet reached.

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\*Copy from the Secretary's minutes of the Tenement House Commission.

Millions  
for  
Charity.

The freer use of water by the tenement house population would aid them very materially in their struggle for existence by assisting the elimination from their system of the poisons absorbed in the sunless and airless dwellings. That several hundred thousand people in the city have no proper facilities for keeping their bodies clean is a disgrace to the city and to the civilization of the nineteenth century. These facilities have been used and are abundant in many enlightened nations, and they are being increased in every way possible. The amount of money annually spent in charity in this city amounts to millions, and the question arises whether it be not greater economy to spend more for the preservation of health and the prevention of disease, because less would then be required for the support and care of the sick and helpless. The cultivation of the habit of personal cleanliness has a favorable effect also upon the character; tending to self-respect and decency of life.

European  
Models.

The committee believed it would conduce greatly to the public health if New York should follow the example of many of the cities of the Old World and open municipal baths in the crowded districts. It, therefore, favored the building, at the beginning, of at least one fully equipped bathing establishment on the best European models, affording every kind of bath desirable, at moderate charges. The same Committee reviewed the work of the Tenement House Commission of 1884 in the light of original recommendations, and in compliance with them, the following sections concern baths and the Commissioners' opinion.

(19) "That the city establish free winter baths throughout the tenement house districts of the city.

"This recommendation has not been adopted. In the opinion of this Committee, the matter of baths is of great importance, and, consequently, this committee unites in a recommendation that bathing establishments, at which a small charge shall be made, be constructed. The reasons for this are set forth at greater length in another part of this report."

Lavatories.

The committee summed up its work in twenty-one definite recommendations, on which it requested the modification of old and enactment of new laws. Its opinion regarding public baths and lavatories was positive.

15. "*Municipal Bathing Establishments.*

"That, in addition to free floating baths maintained in the summer months, the city should open in the



crowded districts fully-equipped bathing establishments, on the best European models, and with moderate charges.

"The Committee makes the above recommendation in the interests of the public health. Hundreds of thousands of our population are without sufficient bathing facilities, while it is evident that the bathing habit increases among them in proportion to the opportunity afforded. The baths now maintained by benevolent organizations at small charges are principally rain baths. The bathing habit abroad has been greatly increased owing to the popularity of the swimming baths, and it is believed that municipal establishments here will be more successful in accomplishing their purposes if swimming baths be included in their arrangements.

**Bathing  
Habit.**

16. *"Drinking Fountains and Lavatories.*

"That numerous drinking fountains and sufficient public lavatories be established in the tenement house districts. The most crowded districts of the city are destitute of such ordinary conveniences; and the same should be promptly provided. In foreign cities, as appeared in the testimony at the public hearings, lavatories of an elaborate character have been built with accommodations for which moderate charges are made."\*

**Ordinary  
Conveniences.**

The canvass of the Federation of Churches shows that there are only 1,037 bathtubs for 8,176 families in the Fifteenth Assembly District, or 1 bathtub to 7.9 families. Of these baths, 767 are in houses between Eighth and Ninth Avenues, in which 3,334 families live, or 1 to 4.3 families. Thus, for the 4,842 families west of Ninth Avenue, the Federation discovers only 270 bathtubs, or 1 to 17.9 families. For the 3,105 between Ninth and Tenth Avenues, 262, or 1 to 11.9 families. For the 1,737 families west of Tenth Avenue, it discovers but 8, or 1 to 217.1 families. For the 1,321 from Tenth to Eleventh Avenue, it discovers 3 tubs, or 1 to 440.3 families. For the 416 families west of Eleventh Avenue, it discovers 5 tubs, or 1 to 83.2 families. The tiers of blocks between Eighth and Tenth Avenues, and Eleventh Avenue and the river, seem, strangely enough, to be the best provided. The condition between Eighth and Tenth Avenues is easily understood; but why should there be a higher average of bathtubs from Eleventh Avenue to the river than from Tenth to Eleventh Avenue? It is evident that the people are not satisfied with their proximity to the river, and the remark of an old Irishman to the writer is probably the true explanation: "Shure oi don't want to live

\*Report of the Tenement House Committee, 1895, pp. 75, 76.

**"Me Own  
Shanty."**

in those big houses any more. Foightin' above yez, swearin' below yez, drinkin' all round yez; and I juist come over here and got this bit of a shanty, and, thank God, it's me own now! It don't look much outside, but it kapes out the cold and the rain, and I've got a tub where I can wash meself whin I want to, too." Between Eleventh Avenue and the river many houses are detached, and the plumbing is not so great a problem in these smaller buildings.\*

It is safe to say that the above statistics show that there is no region of the city in which public baths and lavatories are more urgently demanded. If one of the blocks above mentioned is secured for a park, public baths could be easily attached thereto, summer and winter.

**Rent  
Statistics.**

The rent statistics accumulated by the Federation have already decided the City and Suburban Homes Company to locate definitely upon the West Side the first block of model tenements which they propose to erect. The erection of these buildings cannot but benefit the condition of the people tenementing the adjacent property, as rents in the improved buildings will be no higher, and the conveniences will be much greater. There will thus be good warrant for the plea of tenants in the poor homes to insist upon improvements. To meet present needs, however, parks, public baths, and the enforcement of all laws designed to prevent tenement house evils, are urgently necessary. The people of the district living on the West Side are paying, proportionately to space occupied, as high a rent as those living between Eighth and Ninth Avenues, and their privileges are very much less. The rent statistics were not taken for the entire district, but the rent per room in the blocks taken between Eighth and Ninth Avenues is \$52.09 per year; between Ninth and Tenth, \$41.73; between Tenth and Eleventh, \$29.34, and between Eleventh and the river, \$38.31. It will be noticed that where the rent is the highest the rooms are the most crowded. Putting together the statistics of rent and baths per family, the facts are:

	8th to 9th Avenue.	9th to 10th Avenue.	10th to 11th Avenue.	11th to 12th Avenue.
Rent per family .....	\$229.20	\$158.74	\$101.91	\$117.62
Percentage of families having baths .....	23.1	8.4	.23	1.2

Yonkers is to-day ahead of New York City in its public baths.

\*The Federation of Churches and Christian Workers in New York City. First Sociological Canvass. The Fifteenth Assembly District. N. Y., 1896.



## CHAPTER II.

### THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BATHS AND PUBLIC COMFORT STATIONS.

In September, 1894, in an invitation to a representative body of citizens to a meeting at the Madison Square Garden, it was stated that the meeting was called "to consult as to the wisdom and practicability of taking advantage of the present state of public feeling, to organize a citizens' movement for the government of the City of New York, entirely outside of party politics and solely in the interest of efficiency, economy, and the public health, comfort and safety." This meeting, held September 6, 1894, was the genesis of the Committee of Seventy. That the public might know the attitude of the Committee towards municipal matters, its principles were embodied in a platform which was issued broadcast. This platform was a decided advance, because of its positive or constructive measures; not merely was corruption to be exposed and malfeasance in office to be opposed by a reform administration, but certain definite, concrete pledges were made to those who should endorse the reform movement at the polls. A study of the platform will indicate the positive character.

**Represent-  
ative  
Citizens.**

"1. We demand that the Public Service of this City be conducted upon a strictly non-partisan basis; that all subordinate appointments and promotions be based on Civil Service examinations, and that all examinations, mental and physical, be placed under the control of the Civil Service Commission.

**Non-  
partisan-  
ship.**

"2. We demand that the quality of the Public Schools be improved, their capacity enlarged and proper playgrounds provided, so that every child within the ages required by law shall have admission to the schools, the health of the children be protected, and all such modern improvements be introduced as will make our Public Schools the equal of those in any other city in the world.

"3. We insist that the property already acquired by the city under the Small Park Act shall be promptly devoted to the purposes of this acquisition, so that our people in the densely populated parts of the city shall fully enjoy the benefits of such expenditures.

**Small  
Parks.**

"4. We urge greater care and thoroughness in the enforcement of the Health Laws, and demand the establishment of more efficient safeguards against disease.

"5. We favor the establishment of adequate Public Baths and Lavatories for the promotion of cleanliness and increased public comfort, at appropriate places throughout the city.

**Street  
Cleaning.**

"6. We demand the adoption of a thorough system of Street Cleaning, which shall also include proper disposition of the refuse and garbage, so that our harbor may be kept free from obstruction and defilement and the neighboring shores clear of offal, thus conforming to the methods in other great cities.

**Docks.**

"7. We call for increased Rapid Transit facilities in this city.

"8. We call for the improvement of the Docks and Water Fronts of our great maritime city, so that it shall enjoy the advantages to which it is entitled by its unique position with its unrivaled harbor.

"9. We heartily favor the separation of the Municipal from State and National Elections, and a larger measure of Home Rule for cities."

**Ante-  
Election  
Pledges.**

After the election there were those of the Committee of Seventy who felt the necessity of taking active measures, looking toward the realization of the ante-election pledges. Accordingly, a resolution prevailed that a committee of five should be chosen from the Seventy, for the express purpose of making effective its pledges to the people previous to the election, through the organization of sub-committees, subject to the confirmation of the Executive Committee of the Committee of Seventy. The Secretary of the Committee of Seventy was John P. Faure, whose well-known experience as the Secretary of the St. John's Guild, particularly in the management of the Floating Hospital, made it appropriate that he should select the sub-committee on Baths and Lavatories. Mr. Faure invited William Gaston Hamilton, the Vice-President of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, and the Chairman of the Department which built the People's Baths, 9 Centre Market Place; Moreau Morris, Medical Inspector, ex-Tenement House Commissioner (1884); James P. Archibald, the then Secretary of the Central Labor Union; David H. King, Jr., architect, and William Howe Tolman, the then Secretary of the City Vigilance League. Acceptance having been received from all these gentlemen, the meeting for organization resulted in the election of William Gaston Hamilton as Chairman and William Howe Tolman as Secretary of a Sub-committee on baths and Lavatories, in accordance with this plank in the platform of the main Committee:

"We favor the establishment of adequate Public Baths and Lavatories for the promotion of cleanliness and increased public comfort at appropriate places throughout the city."

The Committee at once put itself into communication with the civic authorities in the leading English and American cities, in order to avail itself of the experience of the last few years. There was very little to be gained from American experience, hence the Committee was obliged to commence from the beginning. As the subject entrusted to the care of the sub-committee was so important, it was decided to issue a preliminary report, in order that the community might have material for consideration, looking towards the formation of sound opinion. The Committee, therefore, reported as follows:

**Civic  
Authori-  
ties.**

"Regarding Public Baths the Committee would recommend:

"1. That Messrs. J. C. Cady & Co., the architects of the People's Baths, which have proved so eminently successful, be requested to submit a plan for a bath-house, to be built on an ordinary city lot, 25 feet by 100 feet, and to have two stories suitable for at least forty baths, twenty on each floor, in addition to spray baths for children in the basement. The baths on the street level to be arranged for men; those on the second floor for women.

**Successful  
Architects.**

"2. That the Spray or Rain Water System of baths be adopted, because, primarily, there is no waste of water; and, in the second place, the cost of erection is very moderate; and, lastly, it is characterized by cleanliness and simplicity.

**Simplicity.**

"3. Bath-houses at a moderate cost should be erected in close proximity to those requiring them, rather than the erection of two or three great bathing institutions costing large sums of money.

"4. That the bath-houses should contain proper and requisite divisions for the use of the cleanly and of those not clean; and that each should contain some system for fumigating clothes when necessary.

"5. That such public schools, where it may be practicable, should be equipped in the basement with baths similar to those in the Hebrew Sheltering Guardian Asylum, with requisite divisions for women. This can be done at a very small outlay, because the boilers already in use for heating the building will usually suffice to heat the water for an 800-gallon tank. These baths could be used by the women during the school hours and by the school children after school hours and on Saturdays, and would in no way interfere with the usefulness of the school buildings.

**Sites.**

- "6. That the following six sites for public baths be chosen:
- "(a) The vicinity of Washington and Carlisle Streets.
  - "(b) The vicinity of Chatham Square.
  - "(c) The vicinity of Essex Market.
  - "(d) The vicinity of Tompkins Square.
  - "(e) The vicinity of Fifty-eighth Street and Eleventh Avenue.
  - "(f) The vicinity of One Hundred and Tenth Street and Second Avenue.

"This number of houses will give bathing facilities for hot water baths for at least 15,000 people daily.

"7. That in the tenement house district, public wash-houses be opened in connection with the baths, thereby relieving many homes of one and two rooms of the unhealthy conditions of laundry work.

"Regarding both baths and public comfort stations the Committee would recommend:

**Operating Expenses.**

"1. That a certain part of each bath and station should be free, in order that necessitous cases may be relieved; for the remaining part, a *fee* should be charged, which sum will contribute toward the operating expenses, and will enable the patrons of the establishment to retain their self-respect.

"2. That the baths and water closets shall be in charge of a sufficient number of paid attendants.

"3. That the baths and water closets should be under the jurisdiction of the Health Department, under a department to be known as the 'Bureau of Public Comfort.'

This report\* was received by the Committee of Seventy, who ordered an edition of 2,500, and entered a formal minute expressive of its appreciation of this careful study.

**Mayor Informed.**

On the formal disbandment of the Committee of Seventy, the existence of the sub-committee likewise came to an end. The gentlemen who had been associated on the Subcommittee of Baths and Lavatories had given the matter such careful thought and had become so deeply impressed with the imperative need of these necessities and conveniences for the city, that it was decided to inform the Mayor of the studies of the Committee up to that date and place them at his disposal, in order that the city might have the advantage of them.

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\*Copies of this preliminary report may be obtained of Wm. H. Tolman, Ph. D., Secretary, 105 East Twenty-second Street, New York City.



When this action was taken the following communication was received:

"City of New York, Office of the Mayor,  
"June 25, 1895.

"William Howe Tolman, Esq., Ph. D.,  
427 West Fifty-seventh Street, New York City.

"Dear Sir:—

"The Mayor directs me to ask you if you cannot call together the members of the sub-committee of the late Committee of Seventy, on Baths and Lavatories, to wit: Mr. Archibald, Dr. Moreau Morris and Mr. Hamilton, if he is not now in Europe, with a view to continuing investigations regarding baths and lavatories, and to see if some means cannot be devised for erecting and trying at once some of the recommendations of that Committee.

"Very respectfully,

"(Signed) JOB E. HEDGES."

This request was complied with, on account of the evidence of the Mayor's interest in the scope of the Committee's work, and his recognition of its services in behalf of the city. A reorganization of the sub-committee resulted in the choice of William Gaston Hamilton, Chairman; Moreau Morris, Vice-Chairman, and William Howe Tolman, Secretary, under the title, suggested by the Mayor, "Mayor's Committee on Baths and Comfort Stations."

**Re-organi-  
zation.**

## CHAPTER III.

### BATH LEGISLATION REGARDING NEW YORK CITY SINCE 1800.

In a summary of the legislation regarding baths in New York City, it should be stated that the conditions are not peculiar to that municipality alone, because the provision of free public baths, with hot and cold water, open the year round, has not been deemed imperative by our American municipalities, but the subject has been forcing itself to the front in recent months. This has been in response to what may be called the new social spirit or the civic renaissance, whereby the claims of life are given precedence over those of property; in accord with the idea that our cities must be more of a home for all the members of the body politic. One essential of the ideal home is a bathroom.

**Civic  
Renaissance.**

While the English Baths and Washhouses Act dates from 1846, it was not until 1849 that any provision was made by law in this State for public baths. The difference between English and American conditions is illustrated by the fact, that while in England the municipality was to undertake to provide public baths, in New York it was left to private enterprise. An act (Ch. 409) was passed on April 11, 1849, by which an association was incorporated, under the name of the People's Bathing and Washing Association, "for the purpose of supplying facilities to the people of the city of New York in regard to bathing and washing." Power was given to erect buildings and fix a scale of charges, and the corporation was permitted to hold property to the value of \$20,000. The capital stock was not to exceed \$20,000, in shares of \$100 each, and the act was to continue in force twenty-one years. The Association was composed of managers of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. A building was put up on Mott Street at an expense of \$42,000, the law being amended in 1853 to permit the Association to hold property to the value of \$42,000, and the capital stock was increased to \$30,000. The institution combined every convenience for bathing, washing and ironing at charges so low as to bring its benefits within the reach of all, and it was hoped that it would be so appreciated as greatly to contribute to the health, comfort, and cleanliness of the classes for whom it was designed. Being the first of the kind erected in the country the enterprise was an experiment. An average of about 75,000 persons yearly availed themselves of its ad-

**Private  
Enterprise.**



vantages. A few years' experience, however, showed that the enterprise was too far in advance of the habits of the people whose advantage was sought to be appreciated by them, and hence it failed through insufficient patronage.

**Ahead  
of the  
Times**

May 9th, 1867, an act (Ch. 842) was passed to incorporate "The Metropolitan Bathing Association in the City of New York."

The association was authorized to build and construct bathing houses or floating baths in the City of New York in the East River, North River and Harlem River so as to provide public baths. It could prescribe rates not to exceed twenty-five cents for each person for each bath. The capital was to be \$100,000 in shares of \$100, but might be increased by a two-thirds vote of the shareholders to \$500,000. The association could purchase, lease, take and hold real estate necessary for its use fronting on rivers and erect either floating baths or brick or stone buildings, the latter to conform to the building laws of New York City.

The Board of Health in its annual report for 1866 pleaded for the establishment of free public baths and wash-houses as a sanitary measure. It said that "the fact that the bath and washhouse which the generous and practical philanthropy of the late Mr. Robert B. Minturn and his associates established did not become a remunerative enterprise need not deter the public from organizing and maintaining such sanitary establishments. The only question is, 'Can a system of public baths be so administered as to insure the attainment of their object, viz, to bathe the people who most need to bathe, and at the same time not incur an unwarrantable expense to the municipal government?'"

**Pleading  
for Baths.**

In 1868 (Ch. 879) the Mayor, Aldermen and commonalty of New York City were authorized and empowered to retain a slip or basin not exceeding two hundred feet in front at the easterly end of the Battery, in New York, adjoining the United States property on the westerly side, and to lease it for a public salt water floating bath. They were also authorized and directed to erect two free floating baths, one on the East River, and one on the Hudson River, and to provide the requisite attendance therefor. These baths were to be free and the Common Council was to prescribe the regulations.

**Floating  
Baths.**

Two floating baths, the first in the city, were erected in 1870 in compliance with the requirements of this act. The Board of Health reported that the universal patronage received and the approval met with on every hand warranted the

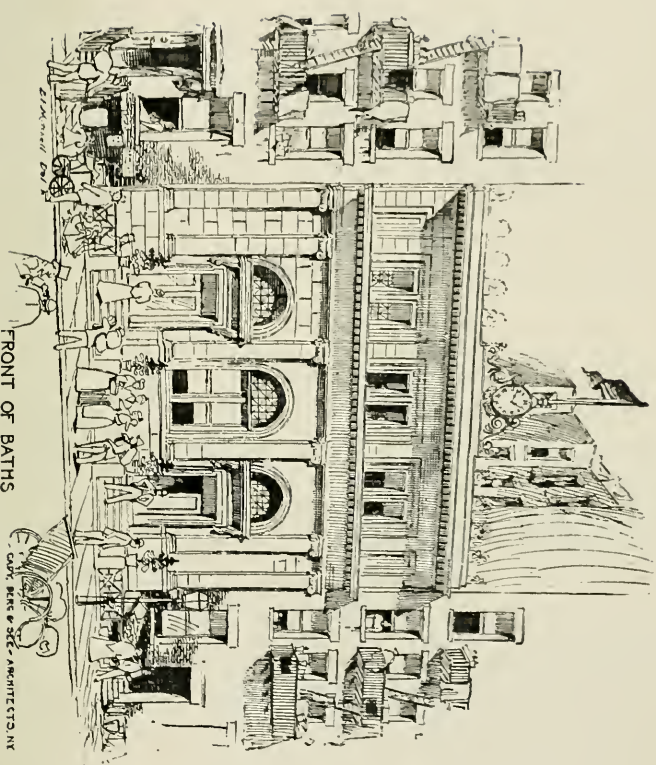
hope that the city would ere long afford proper facilities for all who desired to observe that most essential of hygienic laws—to keep cleansed. In 1871 attention was called to the necessity for some easily managed form of bathroom in each tenement house which would render unnecessary the resort to the free baths upon the riverside, and provide a much cleaner and less dangerous means of purifying the body than the necessity of bathing in the sewer-polluted rivers. It was said that the utility of the baths as a sanitary measure was more than questionable. The water should be taken from the center of the rivers by mechanical means or from the Croton supply, so that no sewer impurities would be in the least intermixed. But the Board of Health recommended warm baths as a means of reducing the death rate and said, “What a melancholy contrast to such enlightened public zeal (as Rome showed by its numerous public baths) in behalf of the health of its people does New York present? Surrounded by water which can be readily utilized, with a population half of which at least never bathe for want of facilities, this city has but two public baths.” It was no argument that there was no popular appreciation of public baths, for Boston’s were well patronized. Baths should not be confined to the river front, but should be distributed over the entire city, with suitable isolation for the sexes. In 1872 it was admitted that grave objection had been made to the baths, but it was thought that the responsibility lay with the location of the bath or the imprudence of the frequenters. In 1873 Sanitary Inspector Stuyvesant F. Morris could not say the public baths were more used, because that was impossible. He said: “What a satire it is upon this city with its million of inhabitants that there are but two small public baths. Still, as this seems to be the era of reform, retrenchment is of far more importance than cleanliness and health. So the great unwashed must remain unwashed, to the great detriment of their health, and consequently that of the city.” In the same report Sanitary Inspector J. D. Bryant urged that the number of public baths should be largely increased in all parts of the city.

**Melan-  
choly  
Contrast.**

**Satire.**

As a result of this, in 1874 four more floating baths were authorized by law, and it was ordered that they should be under the exclusive control and management of the Department of Public Works. A sum of money not exceeding \$80,000 was to be raised by bonds payable in 1875, and the Department of Docks was to assign convenient locations.

The Board of Health report dated January 1, 1876, called attention to the necessity for a large increase in the



FRONT OF BATHS

E. J. H. 1891  
COPY RIGHT © 1891 - ARCHITECTS, INC.



number of baths, the importance of which could not be overestimated.

Chapter 169, Laws of 1876, passed April 22, repeated the law of 1874, except that the expenditure was not to exceed \$60,000 and the bonds were to be paid from the taxes for 1877.

During the following summer these four additional floating baths were placed. In the same year (Chapter 46) Brooklyn was authorized to build two or more public baths, on which \$25,000 might be expended. This sum was to be raised by bonds payable in 1877, and bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent. The annual allowance for maintenance was placed at \$3,000.

In 1879 the Commissioner of Public Works was authorized to construct an additional Free Floating Bath at a cost not exceeding that of one of the baths already in existence. This bath was to be located during the summer at Seventeenth Street and the East River. During 1879 the Department of Public Works erected two more baths.

**More  
Baths.**

In 1881 an additional Free Floating Bath was authorized, to be located in the Fifth Ward.

In 1882 the laws relating to public needs in the City of New York were consolidated, and the acts already mentioned were summarized in Section 346, Chapter 410. This provided for nine free floating baths, one of which should be located on the East River, one on the Hudson River, one at Seventeenth Street and the East River, one in the Fifth Ward, and the remainder at places designated by the Commissioner of Public Works. In the summer following, one more bath was erected, making a total of nine, the limit provided for by the law.

In 1883 an act was passed providing for four new floating baths at such expense as should be necessary. When these baths were ready for use, the Commissioner of Public Works was to sell two of the older free floating baths, the proceeds to go to the general fund. The new baths were to be located at available places. These new baths were built during the following summer.

**Public  
Needs.**

In 1888 two acts providing for new baths were passed. The first bath, the cost of which was not to exceed that of one of the present baths, was to be opened by August 1st, and to be located in the East River between Fifty-ninth and Seventy-ninth Streets, and the other bath was to be located on the Hudson between One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth and One Hun-



dred and Thirtieth Streets, and the Commissioner of Public Works might expend on it such amount as was necessary. Two more baths were built and placed during the summer, making fifteen, the number now in use.

In 1889 an act amending Section 346 of the Consolidation Act of 1882 was passed, which provided that from that date the Board of Estimate and Apportionment should determine on the number of baths necessary for the city, and make appropriation for them. The Commissioner of Public Works should then cause them to be constructed. Up to the present time no advantage has been taken of this act, and the number remains the same as in 1888.

The first provision for municipal baths, such as had existed in England since 1850, was made in 1889. Chapter 452 provided for a Board of Commissioners, to be known as the Municipal Bathhouse Commissioners, and to be composed of the Mayor of the city, the Recorder, the President of the Department of Charities and Corrections and the Commissioner of Public Works. On the authority of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment these Commissioners were to provide plans and specifications for public bathhouses, containing hot and cold water baths, adapted to the different seasons of the year, and to be situated in the Second Assembly District. Plans were to be offered for competition at such premium as the Commissioners should see fit. The whole expense of erecting, furnishing and equipping these baths was not to exceed \$75,000. The Department of Public Works was to have exclusive control and power and the Board of Estimate and Apportionment was to provide annually for their maintenance. The baths were to be opened for men one day, and for women alternate days. No charge was to be made for the use of the baths, and towels or other drying facilities were to be provided free.

No attempt was made to carry out the provisions of this act, as there was no special interest in the matter on the part of the city authorities.

In May, 1892, an act of more general application was passed. This gave permission to any city, village or town to establish free public baths, and to loan its credit or make appropriations from its funds for that purpose.

The present Committee, on taking up the matter of public baths, decided to get legislative authority before proceeding in the matter. As a result, the law of April 18, 1895, was passed. It amends chapter 473, the law last mentioned, making

**Bath-  
House  
Commis-  
sioners.**

**Permis-  
sive Legis-  
lation.**



its provisions mandatory, and the amended law reads as follows:

"Section 1. All cities of the first and second class shall establish and maintain such number of free public baths as the local Board of Health may deem to be necessary. Each bath shall be kept open not less than fourteen hours for each day and both hot and cold water shall be provided. The erection and maintenance of river or ocean baths shall not be deemed a compliance with this section. Any city, village or town having less than fifty thousand inhabitants may establish and maintain free public baths, and any city, village or town may loan its credit or may appropriate of its funds for the purpose of establishing such free public baths.

**Immediate  
Action.**

"Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately."

In the last session of the Legislature the following law was passed:

**"CHAPTER 122.**

**"AN ACT to provide for the construction in the City of New York of certain buildings for the promotion of public health and comfort.**

**"Accepted by the city,**

**"Became a law March 25, 1896, with the approval of the Governor.**

**"Passed, three-fifths being present.**

**"The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:**

"Section 1. The Commissioner of Public Works in the City of New York, with the consent and approval of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of said city, expressed as hereinafter provided, is hereby authorized and empowered to erect such and so many buildings for free public baths and such and so many structures for the promotion of public comfort within said city of New York as in the opinion of said Commissioner of Public Works and of said Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall be necessary and proper.

"Section 2. Before proceeding to erect or construct any building or structure as authorized by the last preceding section the said Commissioner of Public Works may, from time to time, present to the said Board of Estimate and Apportionment a statement of any work proposed to be done, with plans and specifications therefor, and an estimate of the proximate probable cost therefor, whereupon the said Board of Estimate and Apportionment may, by resolution, authorize said work to be done wholly or in part, and may approve of the plans and specifications therefor, or may return the

**Sanction  
of the  
Board.**

same to said Commissioner of Public Works for modification or alteration, whereupon said Commissioner of Public Works shall resubmit said plans and specifications, and after having modified or altered the same shall again submit them to said Board of Estimate and Apportionment, who may then approve the same or again return them to the said Commissioner of Public Works for further modification or alteration, and said plans and specifications may be so returned to said Commissioner of Public Works and resubmitted to said Board of Estimate and Apportionment until the said Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall, by resolution, approve said plans and specifications and authorize the work to be proceeded with accordingly.

**Public  
Letting.**

"Section 3. When any work provided for by this act shall have been authorized and the plans and specifications therefor approved by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, the said Commissioner of Public Works shall proceed to execute and carry out said work, which shall be done by contract, made at public letting to the lowest bidder, pursuant to the general provisions of law and ordinances regulating the letting, execution and performance of public contracts in the City of New York. The Commissioner of Public Works, with the approval of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment first had and obtained, is hereby authorized and empowered, with the consent in writing of the contractor and his sureties, to alter any plans, and the terms and specifications of any contract entered into by authority of this act, provided that such alteration shall in no case involve or require an increased expense greater than five per centum of the whole expenditure provided for in said contract.

**Baths in  
Parks.**

"Section 4. The Commissioner of Public Works is authorized and empowered, with the consent and approval of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, to locate any or all of the structures for the promotion of public comfort to be erected under the authority of this act to be so erected in any public park of the City of New York, and for that purpose the Commissioner of Public Parks shall permit the said Commissioner of Public Works, his officers and agents and the contractors to enter upon said park or parks and therein to perform the work so authorized. Any such structure which may be erected in any public park of said city shall, after its erection and completion, be under the care, custody and control of the Department of Public Parks in said city, who are hereby authorized and empowered to make proper and necessary rules for the use and management thereof.

"Section 5. For the purpose of carrying out the work authorized by this act, including compensation of any architect or architects employed by said Commissioner of Public Works to prepare plans and specifications and to supervise the work done thereunder, and of any architect employed by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to examine any plans and specifications, and including also the cost of such furniture and fixtures for any building hereby authorized as shall be approved and consented to by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, the Comptroller of the City of New York is hereby directed, from time to time, when thereto directed by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, to issue consolidated stock of the City of New York in the manner now provided by law to an amount not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars.

"Section 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

"State of New York,

"Office of the Secretary of State.

"I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in this office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original law.

(Signed) JOHN PALMER,

"Secretary of State."

After it was decided not to locate the first bath in Tompkins Square, another site was necessary. It will be noted that it will now be situated in the new East Side Park.

The matter of locating an additional public park on the east side of the city was taken up at a meeting of the Board of Street Opening and Improvement on June 5th, 1896, and, after much discussion, the President of the Department of Public Parks offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Board of Street Opening and Improvement, in pursuance of the provisions of Chapter 293 of the Laws of 1895, and of Chapter 320 of the Laws of 1887, proposes to select, locate and lay out as a public park the block bounded by Jefferson Street, East Broadway, Canal and Division Streets, and also the Block bounded by Division, Essex, Hester and Norfolk Streets, and also the block bounded by Norfolk, Hester, Suffolk and Division Streets, in the City of New York; and that such portion of Norfolk Street running from Hester to Division Streets be closed and thrown into such public park, and that Jefferson Street be opened and extended through the block bounded by Division, Hester,

**Plans.**

**Present  
Status.**

Suffolk and Norfolk Streets so as to connect with Norfolk Street on the north side of Hester Street; and that the Department of Public Parks be requested to set apart for a public bath the easterly end of the block bounded by Suffolk, Hester, Division and Norfolk Streets."

## CHAPTER IV.

### PUBLIC BATHS OF NEW YORK.

The first provision for free public baths was made in 1870 by the erection of two floating baths.

There are now fifteen floating baths, berthed at convenient locations from the Battery to One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Street, on the North River, and from Market Slip, on the East River. The baths are usually open from the middle of June to October 1st. They are open daily from 5 A. M. to 9 P. M., except Sundays, when they are closed at noon. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are set apart for women and children, the remainder of the week being for males. There is absolutely no charge for admission to the baths. All bathers excepting children are required to furnish themselves with bathing dresses, and, to avoid infection, no towels or other toilet articles can be hired at the baths. Two male attendants are in charge of each bath on the days set apart for males, and two female attendants on the other days. A male guard at each bath on women's days, a policeman to keep order, and a keeper at each bath at night are also employed. Each bath has an average of sixty-three dressing rooms, a reception toilet and retiring room, and is lighted by gas. The baths have a supply of ice water and are thoroughly swept, scoured and washed down nightly. At the end of each bathing season the baths are thoroughly repaired, painted and cleaned.

**Male  
Guard.**

The average cost of construction and equipment of each bath is \$13,000, and the annual cost of maintenance and repairs for the fifteen baths is \$48,000, including \$30,000 for the salaries of attendants.

The baths are located as conveniently as possible to crowded tenement house districts. The berths are assigned by the Department of Docks, and before the baths are placed the Health Department makes an examination to ascertain if the sanitary condition of the location is good.

**Location  
of Baths.**

William Brookfield, Commissioner of Public Works, wrote the Committee, under date of June 19, 1895, that more floating baths could be used advantageously, if berths could be obtained for them at places where they are most needed.



For the season of 1896, which lasted from June 20th to October 10th, the number of bathers was as follows:

Week Ending		Males.	Females	Total.
June	27.....	51,285	8,494	59,779
July	4.....	70,074	18,406	88,480
"	11.....	172,247	60,354	232,601
"	18.....	235,659	68,049	303,708
"	25.....	343,898	98,155	442,053
Aug.	1.....	378,297	203,515	581,812
"	8.....	440,166	238,253	678,419
"	15.....	508,796	246,924	755,720
"	22.....	575,244	253,580	828,824
"	29.....	360,808	140,235	501,043
Sept.	5.....	261,335	102,507	363,842
"	12.....	216,248	96,178	312,426
"	19.....	134,967	82,591	217,558
"	26.....	81,889	22,218	104,107
Oct.	3.....	50,313	13,173	63,486
"	10.....	14,529	5,511	20,040
Total .....		3,895,755	1,658,143	5,553,898

While it is true that there are in New York no free public baths except the floating baths in the summer, yet there are opportunities for the people to secure cleansing baths entirely or partly free of cost, but these opportunities are made possible by philanthropic societies. The first public bath in the United States was opened in New York City, 9 Centre Market Place, by the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. The remarkable success of these baths was due largely to the great interest of the then president of the Association, John Paton. In his own words:

**John  
Paton.**

"The only free baths in the city are those maintained by the Corporation, and consist of swimming baths in the harbor, open during the hot months. It is only necessary to glance at the hundreds of sewers pouring out their disgusting streams into the salt water of the docks, and see that while these city baths may afford amusement and pleasure to thousands during the hot season, the water is always impure and often filthy in the extreme. Such bathing is not cleansing, and it may be doubted if it is not often positively unhealthy."\*

Deeply impressed with the belief that cleanliness of person is not only elevating in its effects upon the mind and morals, but also necessary to health and to the warding

\* Public Baths, by John Paton, late President of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. Read before the Evangelical Alliance in Chicago, 1893.





Bath Room on the Floating Hospital of the St. John's Guild. 8,514 baths given during the summer of 1896. The bath room is not opened till the barge is in the pure water of the Lower Bay.



The "Ring," one form of the spray or shower bath, at the People's Bath.



The People's Baths, 9 Centre Market Place, under the care of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.



off of disease, the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor discussed for many months the subject of public baths.

After long consideration of the plans in use in other countries, it was decided to try the spray or shower-bath system as followed in Vienna. This is simply a gentle shower of water, the temperature and force easily regulated by the bather, the water at once running off into the sewers. In this way the most perfect cleanliness is insured, and all risk of infection or communication of contagious disease, such as must be almost inseparable from the use of the ordinary bathtub, is avoided. Another distinct advantage of this spray system is the great economy of water, at least six persons being able to bathe in the same quantity as would suffice for one tub bath.

**Spray  
System.**

"The People's Bath House" stands in Centre Market Place, near Broome Street, in the midst of a large tenement house district, and adjacent to an industrial center where a mechanical and laboring population of a cosmopolitan character is constantly employed. It is substantially constructed of brick and iron, two stories in height, and presents an attractive appearance. The walls are of white enamel brick, strong iron beams support the floors, the roof and bathrooms are of iron. Brick, cement and slate have been much used in the interior, and light-colored bricks compose a facade as striking as it is ornamental. The building is set off by many cheerful windows and an expansive arch spans the doorway. The sanitary appliances are complete. Designed for the accommodation of both sexes, the baths on the main floor are equally divided, nine spray baths being allotted to each. There is one general entrance, but separate waiting rooms, one for men and the other for women; from these each in turn goes to the baths, which are completely shut off from the adjoining compartments. In the rear of the main section there are three bathtubs, two for females and one for males, the former principally used by mothers with young children. The basement contains nine spray baths. They are all reserved for males and constructed precisely similar to those on the main floor. The engine is especially strong and durable, and a powerful boiler heats the water for the whole building. Croton water is used and also an artesian well, sunk within the building, which insures a full supply, never failing and pure. Improved laundry machinery and ventilating apparatus are also placed in the basement, and all towels in use are washed upon the premises. Every inch of space is economized. The whole struc-

**Industrial  
Centre.**

**Solidity.**

ture is a model in its way and a compact embodiment of architectural and mechanical skill. Solidity is its great characteristic and a glance at the building will convince any one that it is certainly well adapted for perennial baths. A large skylight gives light to the bathrooms above, there is gas for those below, and the most improved methods of sanitary engineering have been adopted and skilfully executed. The fine appearance of the exterior is matched by the comfort and attractiveness manifested within. All idea of patronage is avoided and the bathhouse as it stands is both an ornament and a pride.

A bather occupies his compartment for twenty minutes. This is ample time for a comfortable bath. He receives a towel and a cake of soap and the fee of the bath is five cents. A mother with little children counts as one, and so much is this privilege appreciated that the tubs are in constant use the year round.

**American Housewife.**

The management is excellent. Cleanliness and economy are strictly observed, and an atmosphere of comfort pervades the establishment. The floors and walls are as clean and bright as the kitchen of an American housewife, and the brass work shines like her tins. A competent matron cares for the women. A man of experience looks after the men. The police authorities have kindly detailed an officer as a regular attendant and perfect order is maintained.

The figures for the period since then through September, 1896, show a wonderful increase in the number of bathers and have taxed the capacities of the bath to the utmost. The facts also indicate the popular demand for cleansing baths. If the People's Baths were twice as large, they could be operated at a profit, but with their present capacity there is a debit balance. The following data summarize the facts through September, 1896.

In answer to the numerous inquiries, the detailed expenses of the People's Baths for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1896, are submitted.

## EXPENDITURES FOR PEOPLE'S BATHS, 1895-1896.

1895-96.	Salaries.	Gas.	Fuel.	Incidentals.	Engineers' Supplies.
October, 1895 ..	\$305	.....	.....	\$52 39	\$6 15
November ....	305	\$18 87	.....	33 19	2 75
December ....	305	18 50	\$72 00	50 93	.....
January, 1896 ..	305	.....	.....	20 10	2 87
February .....	305	34 62	88 50	26 55	.....
March .....	305	16 25	.....	21 88	4 75
April .....	305	13 87	68 00	23 30	11 47
May .....	310	14 50	72 00	24 55	8 73
June .....	310	13 75	43 25	40 32	2 64
July .....	310	15 12	.....	44 73	11 30
August .....	310	.....	102 00	52 90	1 87
September .....	310	33 62	.....	37 17	4 33
Totals .....	\$3,685	\$179 10	\$445 75	\$428 01	\$56 86

1895-96.	Soap.	Repairs.	Total Expenses.	Total Receipts.
October, 1895.....	.....	.....	\$363 54	\$226 60
November .....	.....	.....	359 81	248 85
December .....	.....	.....	446 43	218 75
January, 1896 .....	.....	\$20 57	348 54	200 15
February .....	\$34 00	.....	488 67	193 70
March .....	.....	36 30	384 18	265 70
April .....	34 00	.....	455 64	326 85
May .....	.....	42 00	471 78	453 20
June .....	.....	.....	409 96	537 65
July .....	.....	24 04	405 19	681 20
August .....	75 54	.....	542 31	649 60
September .....	.....	.....	385 12	389 70
Totals .....	\$143 54	\$122 91	\$5,061 17	\$4,391 95

Cost of operation for the last year beyond receipts from bathers—Charge five cents for bath .....		\$669.22
Greatest number in any one month .....		14,644
Greatest number bathed in any one day .....		1,074
Average number bathed per month for the whole period .....		6,531
Average number bathed per day for the whole period .....		215
Average number bathed per day for the four winter months, 1895-6 (closed two days for repairs) .....		153
Receipts from bath-house .....		\$4,391 95
Receipts from donations .....		34 02
Total receipts .....		\$4,425 97
Expenditures .....		\$5,061 17
Debit balance .....		\$635 20

NUMBER OF BATHERS FROM DATE OF OPENING IN 1891,  
THUS DIVIDED.

Men .....	295,387
Women .....	54,462
Children .....	51,803
Total .....	401,652



## NUMBER OF BATHERS, AUGUST 17, 1891, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1895.

1891	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total	1891-2	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total
Aug. 17 to Sept. 30	5,188	1,301	4,015	10,504	Feb. ....	1,878	161	318	2,357
					March ..	2,120	188	284	2,592
					April ...	3,098	359	460	3,917
					May ....	3,684	375	695	4,754
					June ....	6,482	1,421	1,723	9,626
					July ....	8,483	2,271	2,341	13,095
					Aug. ....	6,216	1,477	1,420	9,113
					Sept. ....	4,042	489	567	5,098
					Total ..	42,722	7,460	9,258	59,440

1891-2	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total	1892-3	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total
Oct. '91..	1,721	246	581	2,548	May ....	5,112	553	754	6,419
Nov. ...	1,484	159	311	1,954	June ...	7,159	1,214	1,356	9,729
Dec. ...	1,845	164	315	2,324	July ....	8,584	1,986	1,527	12,097
Jan. '92.	1,669	150	243	2,062	Aug. ...	7,635	1,992	1,247	10,874
					Sept. ....	4,876	721	754	6,351
					Total ..	52,624	8,267	7,738	68,629

1892-3	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total	1893-4	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total
Oct. '92.	3,603	348	385	4,336	May ....	5,649	783	943	7,375
Nov. ...	2,256	209	230	2,695	June ...	8,949	2,163	1,826	12,938
Dec. ....	2,668	212	265	3,145	July ....	8,768	2,586	1,488	12,842
Jan. '93.	2,191	195	206	2,592	Aug. ...	6,389	1,716	993	9,098
Feb. ....	2,167	194	209	2,570	Sept. ....	4,950	868	673	6,491
March ..	2,856	301	329	3,486	Total ..	59,908	10,757	9,872	80,537
April ...	3,517	342	476	4,335					

1893-4	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total	1894-5	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total
Oct. '93.	4,076	420	609	5,105	May ....	6,795	1,096	1,097	8,988
Nov. ...	3,018	292	580	3,890	June ....	8,127	1,579	1,340	11,046
Dec. ....	3,238	300	527	4,065	July ....	8,003	2,076	1,394	11,473
Jan. '94.	2,899	321	485	3,705	Aug. ...	9,476	3,035	1,777	14,288
Feb. ....	2,712	281	362	3,355	Sept. ....	6,833	1,697	1,104	9,634
March ..	4,355	455	663	5,473	Total ..	65,517	12,581	10,636	88,734
April ...	4,905	572	723	6,200					

1894-5	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total	1895-6	Men	W'm'n	Chil'n	Total
Oct. '94..	4,801	752	651	6,204	May ....	7,294	1,324	1,226	9,844
Nov. ...	3,248	432	450	4,130	June ...	8,183	2,048	1,314	11,545
Dec. ....	3,516	393	514	4,423	July ....	10,092	2,919	1,633	14,644
Jan. '95.	2,352	259	377	2,988	Aug. ....	9,426	3,024	1,445	13,895
Feb. ....	3,345	288	493	4,126	Sept. ...	6,364	1,144	851	8,359
March ..	4,197	446	681	5,324	Total ..	69,428	14,096	10,284	93,808
April ...	4,824	528	758	6,110					

	Expenses.	Receipts.	Deficit.	Total No. of Batthers.
1891 .....	\$667 81	\$424 55	\$243 26	10,504
1891-2 .....	5,077 75	2,794 00	2,283 75	59,440
1892-3 .....	5,106 86	3,266 10	1,840 76	68,629
1893-4 .....	5,293 31	3,801 00	1,492 31	80,537
1894-5 .....	5,152 91	4,165 25	987 66	88,734
1895-6 .....	5,061 17	4,391 95	669 22	93,808
Totals ....	\$26,359 81	\$18,842 85	\$7,516 96	401,652

Shortly after the People's Baths, those of the Baron de Hirsch Fund were opened, where also the spray system is used. The establishment is open for Jews and Christians, and is supported by the Baron de Hirsch Fund. These baths occupy the first floor and basement of a house at the corner of Henry and Market Streets, and upon them have been expended \$14,500. The cost of the plant was \$11,000. The charge for bathing is five cents for adults and three cents for children. There is no charge for the pupils of the Baron de Hirsch English and Trade Schools. Total number of bathers who have paid, from date of opening to January 1, 1895, (three years)

**Baron de  
Hirsch.**

Men ..... 159,323  
Women ..... 39,985

Total ..... 199,308  
Children ..... (No record kept.)  
Free ..... (Pupils of Baron de Hirsch  
English and Trade Schools.)

Month.	Men.	Women.	Total.
January, 1895 .....	2,775	267	3,042
February .....	2,714	262	2,976
March .....	3,188	364	3,552
April .....	3,269	421	3,690
May .....	4,956	723	5,679
June .....	6,148	1,115	7,263
July .....	6,706	1,425	8,131
August .....	6,149	1,092	7,241
September .....	4,761	925	5,686
Total .....	40,666	6,594	47,260

In 1895-6, a total of 57,779 baths were taken. In the months of April and September the baths were closed for four days on account of Jewish holidays.

The annual cost, including rent (over and above all receipts), is \$1,200. Number of paid attendants, three; greatest number of bathers in any one month, 9,235, July, 1894; greatest number of bathers in any one day, 712, September 30, 1894.

The baths of the Riverside Association, 259 West Sixty-ninth Street, were opened February 20, 1895. There are thirteen baths of the rain water or spray system. Each compartment is built of corrugated iron below and wire netting above, affording light and ventilation. Each bather is allowed twenty minutes and is furnished soap and towel, at the cost of five

**Riverside  
Baths.**

cents. The fee to the members of the association is one cent. On March 15, 1895, Turkish and hydiatric baths were added.

Rain baths (since the date of opening) . .	43,515
Turkish baths . . . . .	5,716
Hydiatric baths . . . . .	7,185

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Total baths up to October 31, 1896 56,416

The facilities of the Riverside Baths are about three hundred bathers daily.

The De Milt Dispensary also supplies baths at five cents, soap and towel furnished. The baths, consisting of six sprays and one tub bath, were opened in 1891 at a cost of \$3,400. None of the baths is free. Only two afternoons and evenings a week are reserved for women. From November 1, 1892 up to 1895, there were bathed 34,618 men and 3,442 women, a total of 38,060. In 1895, 15,826 persons bathed, and in the ten months of 1896 to November 1, 13,247, making a grand total of 67,133 baths in four years. During the three weeks of 1896 the baths were undergoing repairs, so that the numbers were considerably curtailed.

#### Floating Hospital.

The Floating Hospital of the St. John's Guild gave salt water baths to 3,084 babies, 4,575 children, and 855 women, a total of 8,514, on its fifty-seven trips in the bay in the summer of 1896. This made a total of 49,554 baths since the establishment of the hospital in the summer of 1887. It contains twenty-three children's and four women's spray baths, two deep tubs for children and four small tubs for babies. These baths are supervised by trained nurses, and are, of course, free.

#### Way- farer's Lodge.

The Wayfarers' Lodge on West Twenty-sixth Street only gives a bed on condition of a bath. This is usually taken very willingly, carbolic tar soap being supplied. There are seven shower baths, and the temperature of the water can be regulated at the bather's pleasure. From September 1, 1895, to September 30, 1896, inclusive, the number of baths taken was 9,262.

On March 11 last the Department of Public Charities established a "Lodging House for Homeless Men." A bath is compulsory for every lodger, and the results have been pronounced very beneficial. There are eight baths of the ordinary spray or shower bath form; the stalls are about two and one-half feet wide, thus providing a separate bathing place for each man.

## CHAPTER V.

### SWIMMING CLUBS AND THE SWIMMING BATH AS A MEANS OF RECREATION.

New York City is by no means so well supplied with means of recreation as its public-spirited citizens could desire. In the winter, while the well-to-do man can find enjoyment in his library or at a club, and numberless entertainments are open to his purse, the working man has often only the saloon to which he can turn to get society. The free libraries here are few and far between, though always well patronized. In the summer for the poor man there are the parks and the free floating baths. The extent to which these baths are used shows how much they are appreciated, even when the luxury of a swim is only able to be indulged in in water befouled by sewage such as that of the adjacent rivers. But there are many who do not care to use the floating baths who would dearly enjoy a plunge in a comfortable swimming bath, and would be prepared to pay a small sum for it.

**Lack of  
Recreation.**

Much of the amusement provided in the city is not truly "recreation," which is a re-creating of the body and mind so that the man or woman feels like a new being afterwards, and is better fitted to enter again on the work he has to do. Of the recreative effects of swimming enough cannot be said. The invigorating effect of a cold plunge on both body and mind is as beneficial as it is pleasant, while as an exercise swimming is both useful and agreeable. New York City especially needs to encourage swimming. Being a seaboard city, many lives are annually lost by drowning which could be saved if either the person to whom the accident happens or some onlooker were able to swim. The deaths by drowning for the last three years were:

**Seaboard  
City.**

	1893.		1894.		1895.	
	Accident.	Suicide.	Accident.	Suicide.	Accident.	Suicide.
January .	..	..	5	..	5	..
February .	1	..	6	..	3	1
March ...	5	..	16	1	9	..
April ....	9	..	17	1	16	2
May .....	37	..	26	2	26	2
June .....	31	1	35	..	32	7
July .....	34	..	31	2	30	1
August ..	28	1	26	..	33	..
Sept'ber .	20	1	21	1	26	..
October ..	14	1	5	1	12	..
November	9	2	7	..	12	1
December	2	..	6	1	5	..
Total ..	190	6	201	9	209	14



**Policemen.**

In addition to death many accidents occur, and it would seem that our policemen might with advantage be given instruction in the art of swimming and in life-saving methods, that they might not hesitate for fear of risking their lives in attempting to rescue drowning persons.

Much more was done by the city in the past in this matter than it is doing to-day. In 1806 the Humane Society of New York resolved to devote a portion of its care to the resuscitation of persons apparently dead from drowning. It accordingly provided several sets of apparatus and appointed physicians to take charge of them and give the necessary medical aid.

**212 Deaths  
from  
Drowning.**

In 1868 the number of deaths from drowning had so largely increased, averaging 212 per annum, that a committee was appointed by the Board of Health to see if something could not be done in the matter. As a result, lessons in the rescue and resuscitation of drowned persons were given to 819 policemen, of whom ninety-two were sergeants; an illustrated pamphlet was issued and apparatus placed at twenty-four points on the water front. The apparatus consisted of a grapnel or drag, a pike, a ladder, and a float attached to a heaving line. During the five months previous to January 18, 1869, no fewer than twenty-five persons were rescued from drowning by the agencies of the Board. During 1869 it was reported that the lives of 180 persons had been saved. The number of rescue stations was extended, and the apparatus maintained in good order. In 1870 it was reported that a large number of lives had been saved, and policemen stationed at the ferries, ferrymasters, boatmen, and others united in the opinion that the life-saving apparatus was an indispensable necessity. In 1872 the appropriation for maintenance of the life-saving apparatus was \$300. Nearly one-third of the apparatus had yielded to wear and tear. In 1873 the Board of Health reported that "The usefulness of the apparatus would doubtless be enhanced if the persons regularly employed at the ferries and steamboat landings were instructed and expert in its use, as well as in the resuscitation of persons rescued from the water." In 1874-75 the apparatus was carefully overhauled and redistributed to points where it was most needed. The necessary exposure of the apparatus subjected it to rough usage, causing more injury than would result from honest wear and tear. No memoranda of the lives saved had been kept, though it was believed that they were so numerous as to warrant the Board in extending the apparatus more generally along the water front. Since that date no attempt was made to keep the apparatus





First-class Swimming Pool, Hornsey Road, Islington (London). Size of pool, 132 x 40 feet; fees, 12c. for first-class and 4c. for second-class. The swimming pool affords splendid opportunities for recreation.



Swimming Pool for Women at the Hornsey Road, Islington, London. Baths. At this establishment for the year ending March 31st, 1896, 92,190 persons used the private baths, 179,034 the swimming pools and 30,420 the laundry. The receipts from the above amounted to £4,224 10s. 3d. (\$20,573.37).



in repair, and it was gradually lost, stolen or worn out, until it all disappeared, and it is now many years since any such apparatus furnished by the Health Department has been upon the docks and excursion boats.

Compared with the private bath, the public swimming bath is a comparatively late institution. While the English Baths and Washhouses Act dates from 1846, provision for swimming baths was not made until an amendment was made to the act in 1878. Previous to that time the public, or, rather, the male portion of it, bathed in the rivers and streams. This arrangement, though suited to small towns and villages, was not adequate to the needs of a large and growing urban population, and advantage was quickly taken of the permission to build swimming baths at the corporate expense. These baths are naturally most frequented in the summer time, and the attendance falls off in the winter much more than in the slipper baths. In spite of this, the numbers using the swimming bath usually exceed the numbers using all other kinds of baths. To take a few cities:

**Slipper  
Baths.**

	Swimming Baths.			Other Baths.	
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.
Birmingham (5 baths) .....	242,989	5,305	55,750	110,181	15,838
Bradford (2 baths) .....	89,198	1,309	....	79,535	13,061
Burnley .....	33,851	....	....	11,383	....
Coventry .....	53,463	4,398	....	16,753	5,635
Liverpool (7 baths) .....	332,861	8,027	....	108,653	10,883
London:—					
Bow (1895-6) .....	49,468	3,231	....	48,663	12,494
Islington (1894-5) .....	197,641	26,760	....	122,371	28,576
Kensington .....	53,943	5,949	....	40,950	9,249
St. Giles and St. George, Blooms- bury (1894) .....	9,818	....	....	36,000	10,959
St. James, Westminster (1894) ..	31,617	1,990	....	66,764	24,495
Salford, 4 establishments (1891-2)..	99,126	3,670	52,653	41,671	6,434

These figures will suffice to show the greater popularity of the swimming bath. The cleansing value of the bath is small, and some of the bathers go "just for the fun," even when they cannot swim. Incidentally cleanliness is aided, for it is understood that the bather must attend to that as a preliminary, and often a cleansing room with douches is attached, the warm douche to be used before bathing and the cold after. Sometimes there are two douche rooms, for adults and children respectively. In almost every bath a cold shower is provided.

The swimming bath is usually fitted with various appliances for the bathers' enjoyment. There are diving

**Just for  
Fun.**

boards at various heights, and lately chutes are being placed in many of the new baths, from which the diver slides headforemost into the water. The gradual deepening of the baths—generally from about three feet to six feet six inches—affords the means of enjoyment to both swimmers and non-swimmers, giving confidence to many to learn to swim. Provision is now frequently made for the game of water polo, which is hotly contested and greatly enjoyed by all the participants, and, on occasion, by spectators.

**Swimming  
Lessons.**

The London School Board has done a great deal to encourage the children under its care to learn to swim. Tickets signed by the head teacher, and stamped with the name of the school, are issued to those who can afford it at one penny (two cents) each, but to those who are too poor a special voucher is given freely, the Board redeeming them when a sufficient number has been presented. Many youngsters are not satisfied with getting a free ticket, which they can only have once a week, but manage to pay for a bath at the 1d. rate in addition. The time spent in learning swimming counts as part of the regular school hours.

**10,000  
Swim-  
mers.**

Swimming instruction is given at most of the baths by competent instructors. The charge of 6d. per lesson or 5s. per course of twelve (12 cents and \$1.25 respectively), as at Edinburgh, is a very usual one, children paying half price. In 1895 the London Schools Swimming Association taught over 10,000 boys and girls to swim—many of the class who would not otherwise have seen the inside of a swimming bath. The association is worked entirely by school board teachers, who not only give their services voluntarily, but are often out of pocket in defraying the many expenses entailed. Nearly three hundred schools are affiliated to the Central Council at the low fee of 1s. per annum. These schools are situated all over the London postal district and are grouped into suitable branches, of which there are now twenty-two, each school communicating with the Central Council through the Branch Secretary. Each branch sends one representative to the Central Council for every six schools affiliated. Hoxton has eleven schools which pay 2s. 6d. affiliation fee to the branch, which pays their affiliation fee to the Central Council. A very pretty first-class certificate, designed by Walter Crane, is awarded to every boy swimming a hundred yards, and to every girl swimming fifty yards, an examination fee of 3d. being charged. The "Daily Chronicle" Challenge Shield is held for one year by the boys' school having the largest number of these certificates, compared with the number above the age of ten years on the roll of the school. The "Fabian"

**Fabian  
Challenge  
Shield.**

Challenge Shield is held by the girls' school fulfilling the same conditions. The event of the year is the Central Championship Competition, and leaders in the swimming world agree that it is the best all-around show ever given by children, the diving and the competition of four boys' teams and four girls' teams for the Life Saving Society's medals and certificates being especially commended.

Teachers are encouraged to learn to swim by the granting of certificates to all who can dive (optional for ladies), swim one hundred yards (ladies fifty yards), part to be done on the back, and satisfy the judges of their power to teach swimming and life-saving. Candidates are expected to answer questions on the theory and method of teaching, and to criticize faulty swimming, as well as to be able to effectively rescue by any two of the four methods and to know thoroughly the resuscitation drill on the Sylvester method. Examiners are appointed by the Southern Counties Amateur Swimming Association, the Life Saving Society and the London Schools Swimming Association.

**Faulty  
Swim-  
ming.**

In 1895 the London Schools Swimming Association expended £86 2s, while its income was only £59 9s. 6d. Subscriptions amounted to £20 9s. 6d., the remainder of the receipts coming from affiliation fees, sale of tickets and programmes at the Annual Competition, etc. The Association provided medals for the branch championship at a cost of £22 19s. 8d. in 1895, but all the trophies are given by interested friends.

Mr. Charles Newman, who was formerly at the Battersea Baths, taught the Board School boys there free of charge, and he is now doing the same at the Westminster Baths. He gives about 1,700 lessons yearly, and turns out about one hundred swimmers each year. Unfortunately, he had to turn many boys away for the simple reason that they had had nothing to eat. Many deaths which were put down to cramp in the legs were more properly attributed to cramp in the stomach, and Mr. Newman therefore dared not let the lads enter the water, much as they would have enjoyed it. Mr. Newman also arranged a life-saving class, which won warm approval from Coroner Hicks, who had so often witnessed the sad results of a lack of this knowledge on the part of a riverside population.

**Life  
Saving  
Class.**

To promote the interests of swimmers clubs were very early formed, and now there is scarcely a bath which is not used by at least one, and often by quite a number of these clubs. A reduction is usually made, club members being admitted for 4d. and 4½d., where other bathers are charged 6d. For this



**Swimming Clubs.**

and other club benefits, a fee, usually about 10s. 6d. per annum, (\$2.60) is charged, the entrance fee varying from 2s. 6d. to £1 1s. Most of the clubs are affiliated to the Amateur Swimming Association, and only amateurs may belong to them. The accepted definition of an amateur is as follows: "An amateur is one who has never competed for a money prize, declared wager, or staked bet; who has never taught, pursued or assisted in the practice of swimming or any other athletic exercise as a means of pecuniary gain, and who has not knowingly or without protest taken part in any competition or exhibition with anyone who is not an amateur." A swimmer ceases to be an amateur and becomes a professional by

"(a) Engaging in swimming or any other athletic exercise—or personally teaching, training or coaching any other person therein—for pecuniary gain.

"(b) Selling, realizing upon, or otherwise turning into cash any prize won by him.

"(c) Accepting remuneration for swimming in public, or by being employed for money or wages in a swimming bath or elsewhere as an attendant on swimmers."

**Novice.**

A novice is one who at the time of competing has never won a prize in a similar class of open competition, *i.e.*, winning a prize for plunging, object diving, etc., or in any other branch of sport, will not disqualify the winner from competing as a novice in a swimming race proper, or *vice versa*. This rule does not apply to prizes won at school.

Honorary members are admitted on different conditions, but are usually not allowed to vote, though given all other club privileges.

Subscribing members have to be proposed and seconded by club members. A ballot is taken at the next committee meeting, and a small minority can exclude, in one club one black ball in four, in another one in five. The management of the club is usually vested in a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, a Committee of about ten members and a Captain. All but the last are always elected annually, though usually eligible for re-election. The Captain is sometimes elected, sometimes (as in the Otter S. C., London), the captaincy is swum for in open water, the time and place being chosen by the committee, and the distance being 1000 yards. The votes of two-thirds of the members in one club, or in some cases of the committee alone, though then with the right of appeal, can expel a member for ungentlemanly behavior.

**Otter Club.**

Prizes are offered by the clubs for proficiency in swimming, diving, etc., and the annual entertainment is frequently a very brilliant affair. Bootle held two such contests last year, one club getting the Mayor to preside. The other festival was held by the boys from the schools, who paid for the use of the baths. The Otter Swimming Club held its annual entertainment on October 1st, 1895, at the St. George's, Buckingham Palace Road, baths. The programme included inter-club high diving, limited to three entries from each club. Points were given for correctness of position on the board, neatness of take-off, of position in the air, and of entering the water, avoidance of splash and neatness of coming to the surface. Each competitor was allowed two dives, and the highest aggregate won. Two prizes were given. The next event was a 360 yards (12 lengths) team race. Each man of each team swam sixty yards; the second started when the first had finished, the third waited until the second finished, and so on; the team whose six men completed the 360 yards first won the race, and each man received a prize of a silver-mounted paper knife. Four prizes were offered for a ninety yards invitation and club handicap. There were six men in each of six heats, the final being swum by the first in each heat. A prize of a silver cigarette and match box case was offered to the winner of a thirty yards clothes handicap. Following this was a display of diving, ornamental and trick swimming by two members of the club who were pupils of the instructor. Then came a sixty yards hurdle handicap in three heats, for which three prizes were offered. The next event was a life-saving demonstration, under the directorship of Mr. George J. Strickland (Otter S. C. and Life Saving Society). The demonstrators were teams of members of the London Schools Swimming Association, and all the details of release and rescue and of resuscitation were fully given. A water polo match between Cambridge University (Past and Present) and the Otter S. C. followed, and the last event was a sixty yards interclub crocodile race, for which a silver match box was offered to each of the four members of the winning team. There were sixteen entries. Admission tickets cost 2s. (50 cents), but admission at the doors was 2s. 6d. (60 cents). A charge of 3d. (6 cents) was made for the programme.

**Splash  
and  
Neatness.**

**Crocodile  
Race.**

These club contests bring the swimming bath into popular favor as a means of recreation, and the attendance is greatly increased. Almost every provincial town has its club. Burnley in 1894-5 sold 4,500 club tickets in packages of 100 each, at a reduction of 25 per cent. The Dolphin Club was responsible

for 8,237 of an attendance of 37,170 at the Manchester Road Baths at Bradford. Eighteen clubs use the Hornsey Road, Islington, baths. Three committee rooms are provided for their benefit, and can be used on special occasions as dressing rooms. Westminster gives the greatest possible facilities for clubs, quite a number, including several ladies' clubs, making it their headquarters.

Some of the clubs are formed of employes of a single firm, the employers figuring as presidents or patrons. Thus the Blomfield House Swimming Club, the holders of the City of London Bath Championship and the Junior Water Polo Championship, with headquarters at the Westminster Baths, is composed of employes of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, wholesale stationers, The employes of Messrs. Maple, the furniture manufacturers and dealers, form the Clarence S. C., and use the Fitzroy Baths.

The swimming bath is not yet so popular with ladies as with gentlemen. There are several reasons for this. The expense is greater, and the incumbrance of a bathing dress involves greater difficulty in learning to swim. The "ladies' days" are inconvenient to many, and sometimes no evening hours are allotted to them, so that very little opportunity exists for practice. Of twelve events at the Portsmouth Swimming Club's Nineteenth Annual Festival, swum in the sea off South Parade Pier, four were for ladies. In a hundred yards challenge race for the Connaught Salt Water Challenge Trophy, there were only three entries, and only two for another trophy, though in each case two other prizes were offered. Eleven entered for a hundred yards open handicap.

Many of the new swimming baths afford a good length for these races. The Hornsey Road First Class Baths are 132 by 40 feet, with a second-class bath of 100 feet by 35 feet, and a ladies' bath 75 feet by 35 feet. The festivals give enjoyment to numerous onlookers, as many as 2,000 having been seated at the Westminster Baths.

The little island of Jersey, with its 52,000 inhabitants, 30,000 of whom reside in the commercial town of St. Heliers, early felt the need of bathing accommodation. The loss of life around the rugged and dangerous coast was so great that as early as 1865 the Jersey Swimming Club was formed to encourage the acquisition of the art of swimming. For years this club maintained the whole of the dives, pathways, rafts, life-boats and other necessary appliances, with very little assistance from the local authorities. The public generally shared in all these benefits, though not more than one in four who availed themselves of the comforts

Ladies'  
Days.

Dives,  
Pathways,  
Rafts.

provided by the Club contributed in any way. The Club was incorporated in 1893 and obtained a lease of the foreshore at La Collette for twenty-one years at a nominal rent. The efforts to obtain a permanent bathing place, more suitable to ladies and available at all states of the tide—the rise and fall is as much as forty feet in spring tides—were finally successful in 1895, when the Havre-des-Pas Bathing Establishment was opened. This bathing pool is but a short distance from the shore, and is so constructed as to be flushed at every tide, and it is fitted with sluices for cleaning purposes. The sides of the pool, which covers about three acres, are mostly of solid rock blasted to slope, but here and there a strong, wide stone wall has had to be built from rock to rock. At the shore side rises a massive granite tower, built on solid rock. Inside is a band stand and round the inside of the wall are built commodious dressing boxes, with lavatories and shower baths attached. On the top of the dressing boxes is a wide gallery. There is every possible convenience for divers, and a shallow place for learners. In fact, it is an ideal bathing place, and is a credit, not only to the club, but to the whole island. The pool is only used by gentlemen from 8 to 10 a. m., being reserved for ladies from 6 a. m. to 7 p. m., with the exception of these hours, and on Sundays from 6.30 a. m. to 9.30 a. m. Admission is free to lady members, gentlemen members paying 1d. and non-members 3d. for a single bath or 2s. 6d. for twelve tickets. Swimming instruction is free to members, but a charge of 3d. per lesson of a quarter of an hour is made to non-members, twelve lessons costing 2s. 6d. Separate dressing-rooms are provided, with the usual fittings. The bathing for the day being over, the establishment lends itself admirably to band promenades in the summer evenings. In the winter the pool is used for yacht sailing. The establishment has proved very successful, and in 1895 £50 of the original cost was paid off. The £3000 required was raised by means of debentures bearing interest at the rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum. Some 15,000 persons paid admission in the season of 1895, and there was every reason to anticipate a substantial increase in 1896.

**Granite  
Tower.**

The bathing place at La Collette is open free and non-members are allowed to the full extent of the accommodation provided. It is proposed to erect here a similar establishment to the one at Havre-des-Pas, at a cost of £2000, which is to be raised at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum, so as to give gentlemen the same opportunities now provided for ladies.

**La  
Collette.**

The club now comprises 135 ladies and 188



girls under sixteen; 239 gentlemen and 113 boys under sixteen; 57 life and 3 honorary members. A total of 753.

The fees per annum are:—

Ladies .....	8s.
Girls (12 to 16 years of age) .....	6s.
Girls (under 12 years of age, including the use of the new pool) .....	4s.
Gentlemen .....	5s.
Boys (under 16 years of age) .....	2s.
Boys (under 7 years of age, including the use of the new pool) .....	4s.

Subscriptions are payable in advance on January 1st of each year.

The club holds annual swimming matches, at which prizes are given. Certificates of proficiency in swimming are awarded, and every effort made to encourage this art, so valuable to a water-surrounded people.

In this country the municipal provision of swimming pools is a comparatively late institution. The need arose when the rapid growth of cities left no streams or pools where the small boy could strip and bathe undisturbed by the police. New York's first floating bath was opened in 1870, and Philadelphia's first bathhouse in 1885. Chicago has had a public swimming bath for the first time this year, but already a second and a third are talked of. In neither of these cities is any attempt made to heat the bath, which is only kept open during the summer months.

In Philadelphia there are six swimming baths in different parts of the city, and the attendants at each are a man, a woman and a policeman. The baths are 38 by 107 feet. They are open from 6 a. m. to 9 p. m. week days and from 6 to 9 a. m. Sunday. Women's days are Mondays and Thursdays; other days are reserved for men. The building is cleaned twice a week, and the water in the tank changed twice a day. There is always a constant change of water, as it is running in and out continually, the depth being from three to six feet. The pool is sometimes divided and warnings posted to prevent accidents. No towels are allowed to be left at the bath, each bather being supposed to provide his own, though this is rarely done, the participants preferring to "dry off." Bathing trunks are provided at the modest charge of three cents. It will be noticed that of the 1,879,662 baths registered, only 32,416 were taken by women and girls. There were fully five times as many boys as men, and girls as women.

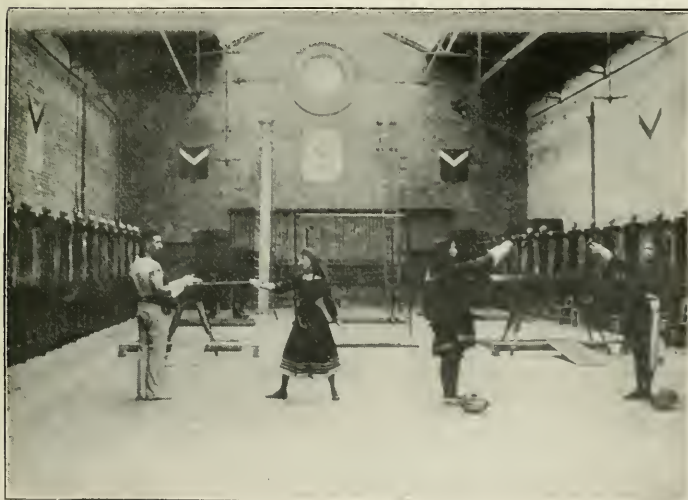
**Police.**

**No  
Towels.**





"Amateur" Swimming Club (London). This club, as well as several others, uses the Fitzroy Baths, St. Pancras. The recreative features of the swimming club need no comment.



The Newport (England) Swimming Pool, floored over in the winter and used as a gymnasium and room for tennis, thus emphasizing the recreative features of the establishment.



The season of 1896 lasted from June 15 to September 26. The number of bathers at the various bathhouses was as follows:

Name of Bath House.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Beach and Laurel Streets .....	402,894	13,086	415,980
Eighth and Mifflin .....	170,843	3,418	174,261
Thirty-second and Ridge Ave. ....	318,177	3,224	321,401
Twenty-seventh and Master .....	472,845	6,488	479,333
Thirty-third and South .....	66,306	2,578	68,884
Twelfth and Wharton .....	416,181	3,622	419,803
Totals .....	1,847,246	32,416	1,879,662

The bathhouses cost \$8,000 each to erect. The cost of maintenance and repairs is \$400 per year, and \$600 a year superintendent's salary. A new bathhouse has just been erected at Second and Cumberland Streets at a cost of \$15,102.95. The building is the handsomest of its kind in the country. Unlike those of the other city bathhouses, the bathing pool is roofed over. The building is constructed of brick and stone and the pool is 35 by 90 feet. This bathhouse will be opened for the first time next year.

**Bathing  
Pool.**

Before the opening of the public bathhouses for the season of 1896, Dr. Edwin J. Houston, President of the National Swimming Association, made an arrangement with Chief Eisenhower, of the Bureau of City Property, to give a lecture on swimming at each one of the various pools, at which the members of the N. S. A. would assist him by giving exhibitions of the different swimming strokes, best methods of saving life in drowning accidents, how to resuscitate the apparently drowned, and in other ways instruct and educate the boys in these useful matters. The lectures created a great amount of public interest. Boys who had learned to swim had pointed out to them the most common faults in swimming; many who knew nothing of the art previously learned to swim. At the conclusion of each of the lectures referred to a number of the boys who displayed proficiency in swimming were allowed to compete for prizes, given by the National Swimming Association, comprising gold, silver and bronze medals, for the first, second and third in the final heat. Dr. Houston hopes eventually to see swimming take a place in the educational curriculum in the schools of our large cities, and to further this end is trying to create a strong public interest in the sport.

## CHAPTER VI.

### THE SPRAY BATH, AND SPRAY BATHS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The bathing establishment is now not up-to-date which has not spray baths in place of the old-fashioned tub.

**Rose  
Shower.**

The original form of the spray was the old rose shower, which was common in the early part of the century. About 1880 a great demand for a cheap and quick form of bath produced various improvements in the spray bath. The Hemenway Gymnasium, at Harvard University, contained a shower room ten feet by twelve feet, with appliances for giving lateral, vertical and descending showers. In 1883 Mr. Robert J. Roberts, physical director of the Boston Young Men's Christian Association, to obviate the fall of water on the head, which was held to be dangerous, invented the ring-shaped rain shower, which has been named after him. It was first used in the Boston Y. M. C. A. Gymnasium, then new.

**Sprink-  
lers.**

In 1889 Dr. Simon Baruch, of New York, in an editorial in the Philadelphia "Medical Times and Register," urged the construction of public rain baths as a simple and cheap means of bathing those who had no facilities at home. At the Social Science Convention, Saratoga, in September, 1890, Dr. Baruch presented plans for rain baths and described their working. On his advice the New York Juvenile Asylum substituted for its plunge bath a system of sixty-eight sprinklers, twenty inches apart, connected by pipes near the ceiling. By this means 280 children are now bathed in one hour, where formerly it was only possible to bathe eighty, and only one-eighth of the quantity of water is used.

In November, 1890, Dr. Baruch explained to the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor the working of the spray bath and its adaptation to a public bathing establishment. As a result, a building committee was appointed and the People's Baths were constructed.

**First-  
Class  
Tubs.**

In Germany private spray baths are being introduced into all the municipal bathing establishments, and a smaller charge is usually made than for the tub bath. The use of a shower bathroom is often compulsory previous to entering the swimming bath. England has not taken up the system, though showers are often placed as an adjunct to first-class tub baths, or to swimming baths.

The superiority of the spray bath over the tub is evident to any one who comes to the question with an unprejudiced mind.

The tub is extremely difficult to keep clean, needing special preparation for each bather, and even then skin diseases are sometimes transmitted. A coal miner or engineer taking a tub bath would very soon soil the water so that absolute cleanliness would become an impossibility without a change of water.

**Coal  
Miner.**

With the spray it is very different. The bather soaps himself standing in a rain of warm water falling with some force, and scrubs and cleans himself perfectly in a short time, the soiled water passing away immediately.

The outlay for tubs is avoided, as well as the cost of their wear and tear. The cost of the spray fittings is out of all proportion to this expense.

The time required is very much less in the spray bath than in the tub bath, because the mechanical effect of the descending stream aids the removal of dirt.

The economy of water is enormous, only half the amount being used, and the economy of space is almost as great.

The tonic effect of the spray is very valuable, stimulating the skin, and thus providing protection against subsequent exposure, especially if the temperature of the water is gradually lowered.

The low cost at which the spray bath can be given makes it pre-eminent as a popular bath. The People's Baths average an expense of a little over five cents a bath, and in Germany, owing to cheaper labor and accommodation not being quite so private as here, the cost is much lower. It is thought that a bath double the size of the People's Baths would pay expenses at a charge of five cents per person. Where this small fee was thought inadvisable, the expense to the city would be a comparative trifle, compared to that for either tub or swimming baths.

**Low  
Cost.**

The basements of our public schools, which are, in many cases, very little used, are peculiarly fitted for the establishment of spray baths for the school children. Where the basement is used as a playground, a roof garden playground might be substituted, and so a double advantage secured.

The credit of the initiation of this movement belongs to Göttingen, a city of 21,000 inhabitants, in Hanover, Germany. A great reform had been made in school affairs, giving



**Unwashed  
Children.**

the most approved methods of heating and ventilation in large, hygienically-constructed buildings. But the thought came, of what avail were all these hygienic arrangements if to these buildings were admitted dirty children, with all kinds of infectious germs? Considering the matter, the almost complete lack of bathing facilities for the scholars, and especially for the girls, was spoken of. Except during the open bathing time during the summer months, by far the greater portion of the children went unwashed, except for face and hands, and especially was this the case with those above the age of ten. Indeed, a subsequent census of a higher grade school in Göttingen, containing 860 scholars, showed that only 145, or 17 per cent., were bathed in tubs at home, these being mostly the younger children, while 1 per cent. of the others bathed at private establishments. The remaining 700 children were practically without the means of obtaining a full bath from one year's end to another.

The basements of the schools were empty, there was a good water supply and drainage, all necessary arrangements for heating and excellent janitors. A consultation with the city architect proved its practicability at an estimated expense of \$166.60 for one school. The common council granted \$238 for the purpose. The cost, exclusive of building alterations, as asphaltting and drainage channels, was:

Reservoir, with fittings .....	\$61 88
Furnace .....	40 46
Water pipes, douches .....	71 40
Tubs and fittings .....	11 90
<hr/>	
Total .....	\$185 64

A room sixteen feet ten inches by eight feet three inches was fitted up as a bathing room and another of the same size as a dressing room. Both rooms have asphalt floors, which are laid where necessary with wooden bath mats or cocoa matting. The walls of the bathroom are cemented. There are three douches, with shallow tubs of five feet two inches in diameter underneath. The water is kept at a temperature of 84 to 86 degrees Fahrenheit, and may be used on very hot days as cool as 75 or 77 degrees Fahrenheit. About 5,000 gallons of water are used for seventy children.

The baths were ready for use early in 1885. No compulsion was used, and at first only a few children went down,

but after two months about 75 per cent. took part in the bathing. Each scholar who wishes receives a bath once a fortnight, on one of the four full days during the time school is open. The class which bathes studies some lesson which does not require the presence of the whole class. From six to nine children, according to size, go down at once, and when they have had time to undress, a second set are sent down. The first set step under the douches, two or three under each douche, and when they have bathed the others are ready to take their places. Thus the douches are kept in use, and the time occupied is comparatively small, a class of fifty-one boys bathing in fifty minutes. Girls and younger children take rather longer. The disturbance of lessons is not so great as was feared. Only a few children are absent at any one time and these can be easily controlled—the boys by the janitor, the girls and younger children by the janitress. The latter undertook to assist the little ones, who stood sadly in need of such help.

**Few  
Children.**

A towel is brought by each bather, whilst bathing caps and petticoats were supplied to the larger girls.

Precaution is taken to avoid cold immediately after bathing. The children go back to warmed classrooms and cool off gradually, bathing not being allowed half an hour before school closes.

“The quickness and willingness to learn after bathing, the education of the sense of cleanliness, the furtherance of the health of the children, are such important and real results of the arrangement,” says School Director Personn, “that I cannot but express to the city authorities the wish that, if possible, similar bathing establishments might be introduced into the other public schools.”

**Quickness  
and  
Willing-  
ness.**

Already it had been found that parents sent cleaner and tidier children to the handsome new school buildings; now their pride made them anxious that neither the janitress nor their fellow scholars should see ragged or dirty underclothing. There are few families so lost to all better feelings that this has no effect, and in those where drink has driven the sense of honor away, charity must give clothes to the poor children.

Up to date about forty cities have followed Göttingen's example, at a cost for water of one-quarter of a cent in Germany and one-fifth of a cent in Switzerland.

The city of Posen erected a spray bath in the basement of the third public school in 1894. Dressing accom-

modation was provided for sixty scholars. Nine sprays were provided, and it was estimated, from the experience of Carlsruhe, that each spray could be used five times in an hour, and that it would be possible to bathe from two to four children at a time under each spray. Thus an hour would be ample for each class. As the school contained 1,500 scholars, fifteen hours would suffice to bathe the whole number.

**One Bath  
a Week.**

Estimating one bath per week to each scholar, there would be an annual expense of about 800 M. (\$190) for the necessary water and gas, and for heating and lighting in the winter months. The use of gas for heating the water had proved very successful in other cities, obviating the necessity of an engineer to look after the fires. There would be no other expenses, as the teachers could supervise the work of bathing their children.

The cost of introduction of these baths in public schools is inconsiderable in view of their hygienic importance.

Posen estimated the initial expense as follows:

Alterations to building .....	\$763
Fixing gas and water pipes .....	428
Fittings for bath .....	333
<hr/>	
Total .....	\$1,524

A Munich school bath, having sixteen separate bathing cabins, placed in a room with two communicating open dressing rooms, has been found equal to affording a bath a week to 1,664 children. The bath fixtures, etc., in this case were put in at a cost of \$450.

**Adolph  
Strasse.**

Altona intends to place spray baths in all its public schools. One has already been erected as an experiment, in the Adolph Strasse school. This school consists of a center building and two wings. One wing contains a boys' school of thirteen classes with 953 pupils; the other a girls' school of thirteen classes with 938 pupils. The spray is situated in the center building.

Stuttgart has lately introduced the baths in two of its public schools. There are seventeen sprays in the Roman school, and dressing accommodations for fifty-one scholars. Thirteen sprays are provided in the Jacob school.

The city of Brunswick has also lately intro-

duced spray baths into some of its high schools, and they have proved very beneficial.

The proposal to introduce spray baths into a Boston public school first came up in the early part of this year. A plan was sketched by Dr. Hartwell, director of physical training in the Boston public schools, for bath and dressing-rooms in the new Paul Revere school house at the North End, and in another new school at the West End. Dr. Hartwell's plan was used as a basis for securing estimates for cost of plumbing, asphalt, etc. The plan called for a room 40 by 58 feet, divided by partitions into twenty-eight bathing cabins and three dressing rooms, placed at right angles to the bathrooms and opening into it. Allowing each bather ten minutes in a bathing cabin, and ten minutes in a dressing-room before and ten minutes after entering the bathroom, 104 children, or two school classes, could be bathed in an hour, and 2,000 children in a week, providing the bathing cabins are kept occupied. With the asphalt floors, granolithic partitions, "Gegenström" bath fixtures and rubber curtains on brass rods in front of each dressing cabin, the estimated cost of fitting up the bath and dressing-rooms would be \$2,600.

**Boston  
Public  
Schools.**

The School Board on May 12 referred the matter to the Committee on Schoolhouses, who reported on September 22 unfavorably. Their objections in part were: "Your Committee hesitate to take the position that it is the duty of the school authorities to bathe the children in the public schools because they may not be clean, for if this be granted, we see no reason why we should not clothe them if they be improperly clothed, or feed them if not properly nourished at home. But, outside of the legal questions involved, your Committee do not believe that it is in the interest of public health to place these washhouses in the basements of our public school buildings, to there accumulate the uncleanness which may be brought in on the bodies of the children. More or less of foul odors must necessarily come from this practice, and your Committee feel that the suggestion that eventually these washhouses be used for the general public is not in the interest of the proper sanitation."

**Legal  
Questions.**

To this a member replied that, "One would infer that the new Paul Revere schoolhouse was not to be connected with the sewer at all. One would think that the accumulation of filth was to be kept there in the building. . . . It is perfectly absurd to say that it is impossible in the basement of a public



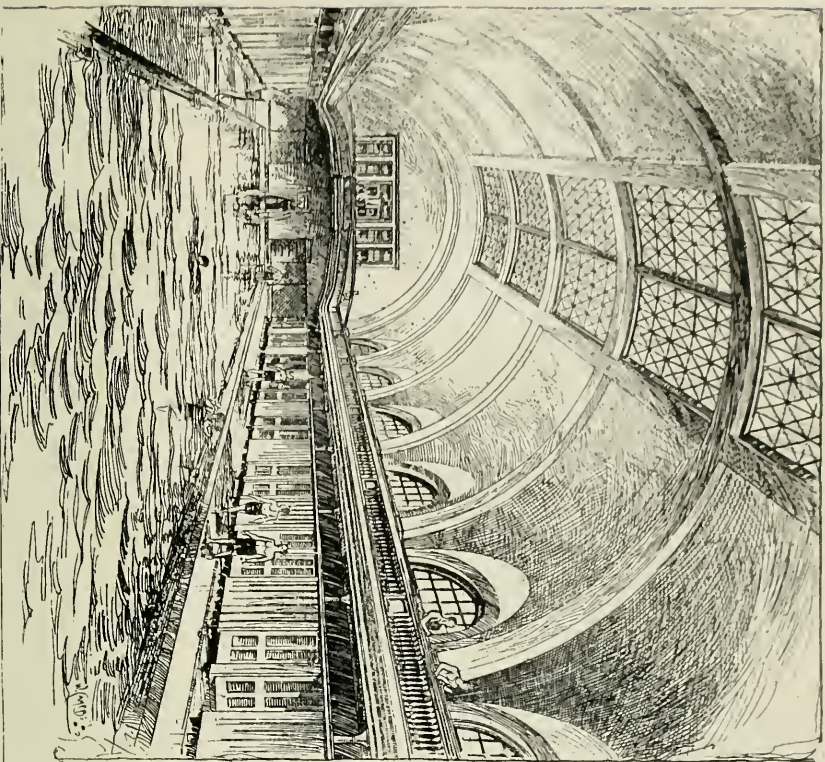
school building, built as you have to build them in that section of the city; that a bathhouse cannot be provided from which no odor whatever can arise. If we must have foul odors, let us have them in the basement and not in the schoolroom. It is not a washhouse at all, by the way, but simply bathing facilities in the basement of a school building."

The matter was referred to the Committee on Hygiene, who reported in favor of the baths on October 13. A long discussion was chiefly devoted to the question of the expediency of the introduction of baths. It was said that the Board had been at work trying to put in proper ventilating apparatus in the schools to do away with unclean odors, in one school spending \$4,500 for this purpose; but they could not get rid of the odors. The order to provide bathing accommodation in the Paul Revere schoolhouse was passed by a vote of 11 to 8.

In this city the advisability of providing baths in school basements was mooted in the preliminary report of the Sub-Committee on Public Baths and Public Comfort Stations. Mr. C. B. J. Snyder, Superintendent of School Buildings, has planned to leave room in the basement of a new East Side school for which ground has been condemned, but no further move has been made in the matter.

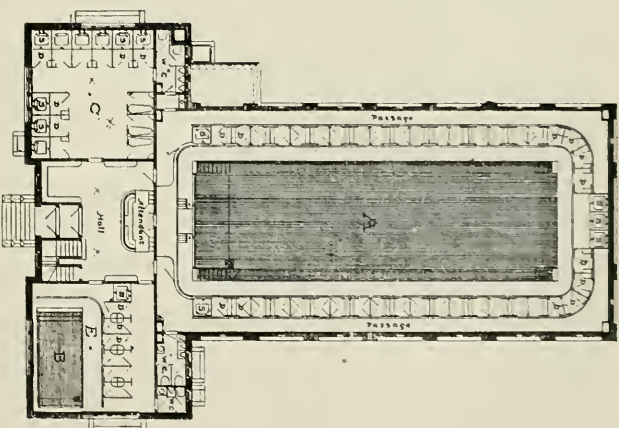
Supt.  
Snyder.





SCALE  
0 2 4 6 8 10 20 FEET

First Floor Plan



- A. Swimming Bath
- B. Swimming Bath
- C. Private Bath
- D. Swimming School
- E. Dressing Rooms
- F. Men's Bath



## CHAPTER VII.

### MUNICIPAL BATHS IN AMERICA.

The first city in the United States to establish a municipal bath, supplied with hot and cold water and open all the year round, was Yonkers. This city raised a fund of \$20,000 and a site was purchased. Plans were prepared for a floating bath on this site, but by reason of the high cost of this style of bath and the necessary expenses of dredging, approaches, main entrances, etc., the funds on hand were not sufficient to carry them out. The fact that the bath could be used but a few months each year, together with the increasing pollution of the river with sewage, also had considerable weight with the committee and the plan was finally abandoned.

**Yonkers.**

About this time a gentleman from Yonkers saw the People's Baths and induced the Committee and Mr. Cooper, Commissioner of Public Works, to pay them a visit. The new baths opened on Labor Day are modeled after the People's Baths and are 25 by 53 feet. They were designed by Hon. S. L. Cooper, Commissioner of Public Works. The front is of cream-tinted pressed brick and the trimmings of Tuckahoe marble. The main portion of the building has only one story with a high basement. The inside walls, iron work, etc., are painted in white enamel, so as to be easily washed out with a hose. At the front, separated from the baths, is the office, with waiting rooms for men and women. The janitor's apartments are on the top floor. The outer walls are hollow, and there are two large ventilating skylights. The floor of the bath-room is laid with granolithic material on heavy beams. The boiler, which is to furnish the hot water and also the heat in winter, is in the basement in the rear. There are thirteen shower baths and one tub bath for men, and seven shower baths and one tub for women. The shower baths are divided into dressing and bathroom, each about four feet square. The cost was: Land, \$2,000; building and equipment, \$9,400; total, \$11,400. Five cents is charged for towel and soap, and twenty minutes is allowed to each bather.

**S. L.  
Cooper.**

Up to the present time the bath has been well patronized and has proved a complete success. It is proposed to build a second bath next year.

Buffalo has erected spray baths, which were opened on New Year's Day, 1897. The building is 68 feet

**Buffalo.**

long and 30 feet wide. The principal part of the structure is only one story high, but the front part is two stories, and contains the living apartments of the bath attendants. There are fourteen separate shower baths and six shower baths in one large compartment, these latter showers being intended for the use of children. Besides these there is a bath tub, which can be used by mothers bringing children too small to bathe under the showers. A wash-room containing three laundry tubs and a drying closet, heated with steam coils and connected with a vent shaft, is a part of the arrangement. There is also a waiting-room and an office from which towels and soap are issued. The soap used is powdered, and only enough for one bath is issued to each person. The exterior of the building is of very hard clinker brick and Medina sandstone. Owing to the limited amount (\$8,000) appropriated for the purpose, it was found necessary to exercise the strictest economy in designing the building.

**Baths  
Free.**

This bath is entirely free, no charge being made for soap or use of towels. It is estimated that about sixty baths an hour can be given in the building. The interior of the bathing apartment has no plaster, the walls being all of brick, the floors of concrete, and the ceilings of timber. The partitions of the baths are of slate, carried by iron framing. The part of the building containing the bathing apartments is lighted and ventilated by overhead skylights. The bathhouse is heated by steam and fitted with automatic apparatus, so that hot water is supplied to the showers at all times at a uniform temperature, which can never be so hot as to scald the bather.

**Dunkirk.**

This little place, with only 10,000 population, intends to have a bathing establishment. It is proposed to have twelve spray baths. The movement, initiated by the local Young Men's Christian Association, has been endorsed by the Common Council, and the baths will be proceeded with at once.

**Boston.**

Free warm baths were opened at the Charlesbank Gymnasium recently and have been highly appreciated. So great is the need of a warm bath that visitors come from all over the city and from Cambridge and Medford, and more or less from all the surrounding towns. One day one hundred and seventy-four people used the baths, and usually there are a great many visitors every pleasant day. Small cakes of soap cost two cents, and towels are supplied free of charge, whether the visitor buys soap



or not. Some people go regularly twice a week and there are newcomers about every day.

The Charlesbank Gymnasium was the first open-air gymnasium in the world and is supported by the city, though run by the Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association.

In June, 1896, \$65,000 was appropriated for a new bathhouse, to be open all the year round.

Mayor Quincy appointed a Bath Committee, consisting of Mr. R. G. Woods, Mr. E. Billings, Prof. E. M. Hartwell, physical director of the schools, Mrs. M. M. Kehew, Miss Pingree, Mr. M. W. Myers and Councilman Ryan.

A site has been chosen on Dover Street, near the corner of Harrison Avenue. The plan calls for a building 43 by 110 feet. On the first floor are separate waiting rooms for men and women, together with laundry and engine rooms in the rear. On the second floor are separate bathrooms for men and for women. In the front part of the building there is a third floor containing an apartment for the manager of the baths and his family.

There will be 50 baths, including 17 for women, giving thus capacity for bathing 150 people per hour. The steam supply for all purposes in the building is to be furnished from the boiler room of the fire department repair shop, situated just at the rear of the bathhouse lot.

Massachusetts provides by statute for the erection and maintenance by towns or cities of public baths, which may be wholly or partly self-supporting. Brookline took advantage of this and appointed on April 11, 1895, a committee to examine the subject. The committee not only considered the special needs of the town, but made a thorough investigation of several of the best bathing establishments in this country and abroad, and afterwards selected a location and prepared plans. In a population of 16,000 there are many persons who do not have access to bathrooms in the houses in which they live, and there was not in Brookline, as is the case in larger cities, any bathing establishment, public or private, where they could obtain warm baths. Nor was there any good open air bathing. The little swimming bath on Boylston Street, in the brook, in 1895 was less used than in any previous season, owing, among other causes of dissatisfaction, to the bad condition of the water and the muddy bottom, and not a dozen boys

**Brookline,  
Mass.**

**Special  
Needs.**



learned to swim. The accommodations, too, are very inadequate to the needs of the population.

The location of the new baths is the center of population of the town, close to its principal playground and its new high school. The building is a handsome, well-lighted, well-ventilated T-shaped building, covering 8,000 square feet. It is of brick with Roxbury stone foundations. Above the main entrance, chiseled into a large stone table supported by dolphins, are the words, "Brookline Public Baths. The Health of the People the Beginning of Happiness."

Dolphins.

To cater to those people who cannot or will not see the advantages of the shower bath, a few slipper baths are provided, there being fifteen rain baths and three slipper baths. The sides of the rain baths are to be lined with marble, and each bath is to have a dressing-room.

The swimming bath is 80 by 26 feet, the depth of the water varying from three to six feet. Fifty dressing-rooms with granolithic floors, and fitted with lock and key, are located around three sides. They are entered from the outside corridor, so that the walk around the swimming tank, and the water itself are kept clear of mud and dirt. The bath itself has a bottom of adamantine mosaic, the sides being lined with English white-glazed brick. A gallery for spectators runs all around the swimming bath over the dressing rooms. In addition there is a steam laundry for the towels and tights, toilet rooms, and a room about ninety by thirty feet upstairs that may be fitted up later as a gymnasium. A special feature found in two of the best and most recently completed bathing establishments of Europe (at Stuttgart and Hamburg) is the addition of a passageway in rear of the dressing-rooms that surround the swimming tanks, as well as in front of them. This feature has the hearty approval of Dr. E. M. Hartwell, Director of Physical Training in the Boston Public Schools, and has obvious advantages, not only in convenience, but in keeping clean the passageway around the swimming tanks and consequently the water, a most important point, while also securing better ventilation for the dressing-rooms, and better order among the bathers.

Dr. E. M.  
Hartwell.

A smaller swimming tank, twenty-two feet by ten feet, is provided for swimming when the larger bath is empty or floored over. The walls and ceilings throughout the building are plastered; the trusses supporting the roof over the swimming bath are to be of hard pine planed. Very large skylights in the

roof, windows on the end gable and in the gallery will furnish an abundance of light and air; provision for electric and gas lighting is also made.

The water, constantly changing, is from driven wells, and is heated by steam as it enters, the temperature being equalized and sustained by artificial means. The surface will be constantly swept by a superficial current of fresh water from one end of the tank, thus removing any floating impurities.

The cost of the building, exclusive of land, was \$40,000, voted by the town. The bath was opened on New Year's Day, 1897, and systematic instruction in swimming will be given to the three thousand school children of the town. The annual expenses for maintenance are estimated at from \$4,500 to \$5,000, to be largely offset, probably, by fees for use.

An association was chartered in March, 1895, as the Public Baths Association of Philadelphia. A lot 60 by 40 feet, at the southeast corner of Berlin and Gaskill Streets, in the heart of Philadelphia's poorest district, has been purchased at a cost of \$5,750, and plans for the first building are complete. Some of the features are taken directly from the People's Baths of New York, some from those in London. While the proposed building is to be nearly twice as large as the People's Baths of New York, the cost of its construction will be about the same, and it is hoped that the large accommodations—1,000 baths per day—will make the receipts nearly equal to the running expenses.

Philadel-  
phia.

The first story of the Gaskill Street Baths will be devoted to men, the second to women; each has a separate entrance and waiting room, both the entrances being overlooked by a common office. The interior is to be of glazed brick, iron, ground glass and concrete.

Connected with this institution there will be a public laundry where, for a small sum, separate washtubs, steam dryers, mangles and ironing tables, may be hired by women who have no place in their contracted rooms to do their family washing. The towels from the bathhouse will also be washed here. A high basement is utilized for this purpose. Accommodations for ten workers will be provided.

Steam  
Dryers.

There are to be fifty-seven rain bathrooms, more than half being for men. Five tubs will be provided for the use of children and women who may not care to use the shower

bath. This should give a capacity of more than 1,000 baths per day.

The building will cost not less than \$29,000, exclusive of the cost of the ground. The Association has on hand, after paying for the land, the sum of \$3,643.70, and provisional promises conditioned on the raising of the full sum needed of a considerably larger amount.

**Chicago.**

**City  
Council.**

The Municipal Order League of Chicago urged the adoption of a system of public baths, and a committee was appointed, consisting of Dr. Gertrude Gail Wellington, Dr. Julia Lowe and Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson. In March, 1893, an appropriation of \$12,000 was secured from the finance committee of the City Council, and the "Carter H. Harrison Bath" was opened in the following January. It is a handsome structure of pressed brick and brown stone, twenty-five feet wide by one hundred and ten feet deep. In the basement are the laundry and two furnaces, one for heating the building, the other for heating water from the baths. In the front of the main floor is a waiting-room sixteen feet square, seating forty people. Beyond this are the bathrooms, with necessary toilet accommodations. There are sixteen shower and two tub baths, and a plunge twenty by thirty feet. This last has not been a success, owing to its small size and to the aversion of people to sharing so small a body of water. Allowing twenty-five minutes to each bather, the capacity of the bath is 2,600 persons a week. Two minutes are allowed for undressing after entering the bathroom, when the water is turned on for eight minutes. One minute's notice is given before the water is turned off, to allow time for a rinse-off. Fifteen minutes are allowed for dressing.

Women are allowed to use the baths two days a week, men using them the remainder of the time. For women the temperature is 105 degrees, and on other days 100 degrees. Many people resort to this bath, not only for the purpose of cleanliness, but for relief from rheumatism and other diseases, with, as they claim, good results.

The bath cost \$10,856, and is run at a cost of about \$3,500, the total expense for each bath averaging three and four-fifth cents. Since opening to June, 1896, 226,538 baths have been given, 49,189 to women and girls. In July, 1896, the remarkable number of 11,250 baths were recorded.

In the summer of 1896 the Douglas Park Natatorium and Gymnasium was opened. There are two pools,

the one for men, 55 by 120 feet, three to eight feet deep, with 117 dressing-rooms. The women's pool is 55 by 60 feet, two and one-half to seven feet deep and has seventy-five dressing-rooms. The baths are open to the air. Every bather, before entering, must use the shower bath, the simple shower and needle baths being both in use. There are six at each pool, separated by rubber curtains. The water for these and also for the pools is warmed.

**Needle  
Baths.**

A new shower-bath establishment will be in operation, it is expected, by January, 1897. An appropriation of \$12,000 has been made by the city. At first it was proposed to have two wings for men and women, but the appropriation being insufficient, the baths will be used on two days by women, and by the men on the remaining five days. The building is on Wentworth Avenue, between Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth Streets, and is 50 by 100 feet. The exterior is of buff pressed brick and terra cotta, and the interior in hard wood and oil. There will be thirty-two shower baths, and a free laundry with dryers and steam washers.

Newark is following the example of Chicago and foreign cities in placing spray baths as an adjunct to a swimming bath. The pool is twenty-eight by fifty feet, and is from three to five feet deep. At the rear are eight spray baths, three feet by six feet. There are thirty-six dressing rooms, four feet by three feet. The building is of brick, with brownstone trimmings, and will cost \$7,500.

**Newark,  
N. J.**

Trenton, after discussing the question and getting plans, finally decided, owing to the financial stringency, to erect the baths in Mr. Thomas Terradell's Industrial Building, and then turn them over to him for future maintenance.

**Trenton,  
N. J.**



## CHAPTER VIII.

### MUNICIPAL SYSTEM OF FOREIGN BATHS.

From the foregoing part of the report, it will be clearly seen that the provision for baths in American cities is totally inadequate. In the leading English and Continental cities these provisions are made as a matter of course, and a few typical instances have been chosen. The general system of baths is the same, and in no case are they free. From a careful study of the following pages, it will be noted that the operating expenses are nearly met in almost every case by fees.\*

**Typical  
Instances.**

**Birming-  
ham,  
England.**

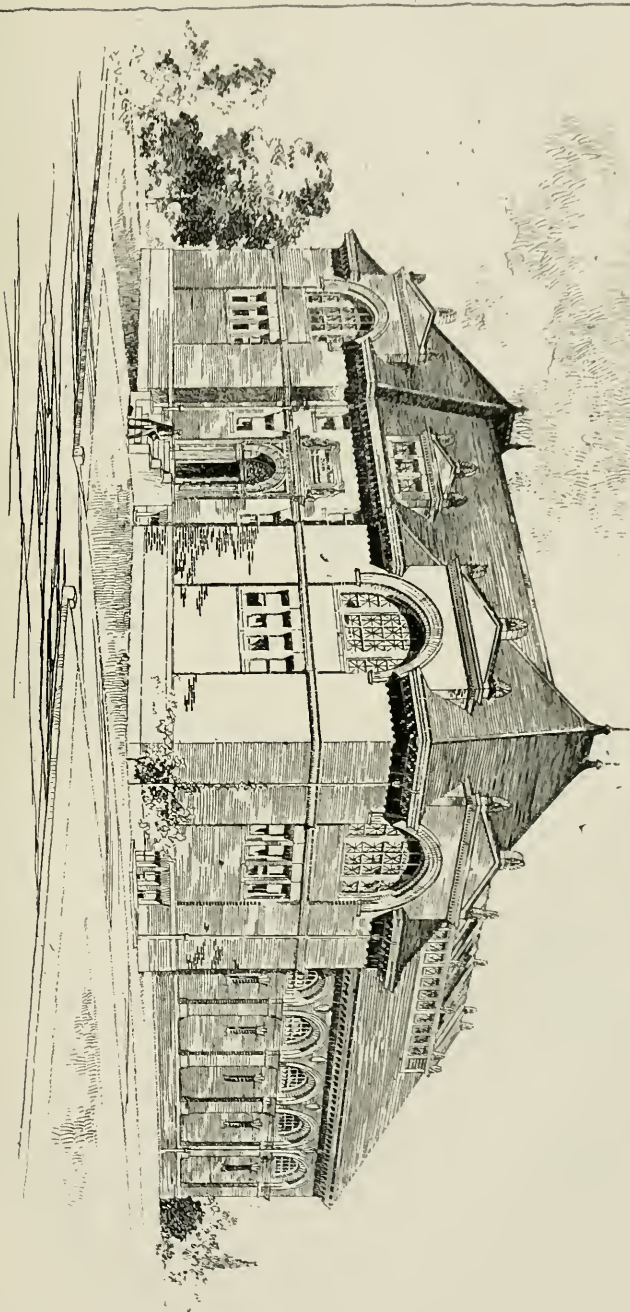
The city of Birmingham, with a population of 487,897 in 1893, or about the same as that of Boston, possesses four complete sets of well appointed public baths, and one open air swimming bath. Two of the public baths have a Turkish bath attached to them. The baths are very efficiently managed, the latest improvements having been introduced at the older baths, while the Monument Road Baths are among the best in England. The sites for two additional suites of baths have been purchased, and building will be proceeded with at once. There is no public washhouse now in Birmingham; the first and only one, erected at the Kent Street establishment, was closed in 1870, and a Turkish department provided in its place. The towels and other articles used at the several bathing establishments are washed by machinery at the Kent Street Baths, under the charge of one laundress employed by the Committee. She engages all the assistance she requires, and upwards of 50,000 articles are washed per annum at a cost of 1s. 2d. per dozen. The following tables will give some idea of the extensive work carried on by the Birmingham baths:

**Best in  
England.**

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\* In the following accounts of English baths, the money is not changed to American, as this can be readily done at sight in a sufficiently accurate manner by multiplying by five (\$4.87=£1); the German mark is taken as equal to 23.8 cents; the Norwegian crown to 26.8 cents. For greater convenience, temperature is always given according to the Fahrenheit scale, and the metric measures and weights are changed to those in general use here.





BROOKLINE · PUBLIC · BATH  
F. JOSEPH UNTERSEE, ARCHITECT  
608 MANCROFT BLDG, BOSTON, MASS.

Cost of building (exclusive of land), \$40,000. Accommodations for 18 private baths.



## BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DURING THE TWO WINTER  
QUARTERS, DECEMBER 1893 AND MARCH 1894.

	Kent-st.	Woodcock-st.	Northwood-st.	Monument-road.	Small Heath.*	Total.
Total number of bathers ...	25,294	7,306	10,527	16,285	.....	59,412
Total amount of receipts ...	£718 18 7	133 10 2	179 14 4	346 7 4	.....	1378 10 5
Total expenditure .....	£1304 15 1	724 16 11	768 10 0	726 7 2	34 3 9	3558 12 11

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DURING THE TWO SUMMER  
QUARTERS, JUNE AND SEPTEMBER, 1893.

	Kent-st.	Woodcock-st.	Northwood-st.	Monument-road	Small Heath.	Total.
Total number of bathers	116,005	69,160	72,490	94,832	19,455	371,942
Amount of receipts .....	£1984 3 7	682 5 11	926 4 6	1296 10 10	113 10 9	5002 15 7
Expenses, including repairs, extensions, etc. .	£1489 10 9	572 11 1	899 12 5	830 6 8	45 5 11	3837 6 10

SUMMARY OF THE AVERAGE WORKING EXPENDITURE FOR  
THE THREE YEARS ENDING MARCH 31, 1894.

	Kent-st.			Woodcock-st.			Northwood-st.			Monument rd.			Small Heath.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages .....	910	10	10	465	3	1	524	0	1	679	2	2	29	18	1	208	14	3
Uniform clothing .....	22	3	0	12	3	3	14	9	6	22	10	2	1	8	8	72	14	7
Coal .....	490	16	0	187	18	1	222	13	7	330	8	0	.....	.....	.....	1251	15	8
Gas .....	67	0	10	27	7	2	33	4	2	54	16	10	8	17	10	191	6	10
General repairs to buildings, machinery, extensions and renewals .....	605	13	3	253	13	4	512	5	7	174	11	3	15	17	6	1562	0	11
Furniture, repairing do., and cleaning materials .....	33	9	11	17	6	2	17	14	2	20	9	3	.....	.....	.....	88	19	6
Insurance of properties .....	1	1	9	1	4	0	1	1	9	4	7	6	.....	.....	.....	7	15	0
Rates and taxes .....	139	9	2	79	1	0	122	13	0	157	19	5	.....	.....	.....	499	2	7
Administrative and miscellaneous expenses .....	538	7	1	112	3	6	110	17	8	131	8	10	2	4	11	895	2	0
Total .....	2808	11	10	1155	19	7	1558	19	6	1595	13	5	58	7	0	7177	11	4

\*The Small Heath swimming bath, being situated in the open air, is not used during the winter months.

† This expenditure includes the sum of £810 for extraordinary expenditure on account of various extensions and alterations to the buildings, and providing new boiler, machinery not required annually.

## BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

SUMMARY OF AVERAGES PER ANNUM FOR THE THREE YEARS ENDING MARCH 31, 1894.  
AMOUNT OF RECEIPTS FOR THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS.

Class of Baths.	Sex.	Kent-st.			Woodcock-st.			Northwood-st.			Monument-rd.			Small Heath.			Total.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Turkish Bath Department.	Men.....	222	7	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	189	5	4	...	...	...	411	13	0
	Women...	45	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	19	9	...	...	...	81	5	11
	Total...	267	13	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	225	5	1	...	...	...	492	18	11
First-Class Swimming Bath.	Men.....	645	12	3	43	6	11	298	13	4	370	1	10	...	...	...	1357	14	4
	Women...	72	4	0	...	9	11	3	11	11	22	8	3	...	...	...	98	14	1
	Children...	42	18	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	11	8	...	...	...	62	10	0
Second-Class Swimming Bath.	Total...	760	14	7	43	16	10	302	5	3	412	1	9	...	...	...	1518	18	5
	Men.....	280	17	10	326	13	9	286	17	10	304	10	2	70	13	5	1269	13	0
	Children...	25	11	1	13	6	8	22	18	4	19	8	10	...	...	...	81	4	11
First-Class Private Bath.	Total...	306	8	11	340	0	5	309	16	2	323	19	0	70	13	5	1350	17	11
	Men.....	465	8	5	148	7	4	215	18	9	260	8	11	...	...	...	1090	3	5
	Women...	36	18	4	9	8	10	13	19	10	22	16	0	...	...	...	83	3	0
Second-Class Private Bath.	Total...	502	6	9	157	16	2	229	18	7	283	4	11	...	...	...	1173	6	5
	Men.....	225	19	3	148	13	4	152	4	11	172	8	2	...	...	...	699	5	8
	Women...	38	5	5	12	2	7	24	2	5	51	11	5	...	...	...	126	1	10
Jewish Bath Department.	Total...	264	4	8	160	15	11	176	7	4	223	19	7	...	...	...	825	7	6
	Men.....	62	7	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62	7	0
	Women...	63	12	11	25	4	0	33	4	0	23	16	0	...	...	...	145	16	11
Miscellaneous Income.	Total...	141	2	0	27	4	8	32	9	8	9	8	8	...	...	...	210	5	0
	Men.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Women...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total		2308	10	8	754	18	0	1084	1	0	1501	15	0	70	13	5	5779	18	1

BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.  
ATTENDANCE OF BATHERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1894.

	Kent-st.	Woodcock-st.	N'rtwood-st.	Monum't-nd.	Small Heath.
Turkish Bath Department.	4,136	....	....	3,659	....
Men @ 1s. ....	987	....	....	723	....
Women @ 1s. ...	31,836	1,824	12,041	15,571	....
Men .....	3,825	18	168	1,294	....
Women .....	2,473	1	60	2,337	....
Children .....	40,032	41,838	34,985	45,407	19,455
Men .....	12,677	13,994	11,638	11,570	....
Children .....	19,305	5,617	8,619	10,446	....
Men .....	1,437	377	619	966	....
Women .....	19,812	11,717	12,945	14,925	....
Men .....	3,488	1,080	1,942	4,219	....
Women .....	1,291	....	....	....	....
Jewish Ladies' Baths .....	141,299	76,466	83,017	111,117	19,455
Total number of bathers .....	£2,703	£815	£1,105	£1,642	£113
Receipts for the year March 31, 1894 ...					
Actual working expenditure, including					
cost of the administrative depart-					
ment and other expenses .....	£2,794	£1,297	£1,608	£1,556	£79

Total number of bathers for all the establishments, 431,354.

Total expenditures for all the establishments, £7,395.

Total receipts for all the establishments, £0,381.



BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.  
SUMMARY OF AVERAGES PER ANNUM FOR THE THREE YEARS ENDING MARCH 31, 1894.

	Kent-st.	Woodcock-st.	Northwood-st.	Monument-rd.	Small Heath.	Total.
Turkish Bath Department.						
Men.....	4,448	....	....	3,785	....	8,233
Women....	858	....	....	682	....	1,540
Total....	5,306	....	....	4,467	....	9,773
First-Class Swimming Bath.						
Men.....	24,602	1,787	11,606	13,949	....	51,944
Women....	3,050	60	164	899	....	4,173
Children..	2,232	102	102	2,294	....	4,730
Total....	30,014	1,819	11,872	17,142	....	60,847
Second-Class Swimming Bath.						
Men.....	31,363	35,128	31,944	36,172	12,064	146,671
Women....	....	....	....	....	8	8
Children..	8,816	10,290	9,065	9,639	21	37,831
Total....	40,179	45,418	41,009	45,811	12,093	184,510
First-Class Private Bath.						
Men.....	18,873	5,959	8,667	10,168	....	43,667
Women....	1,474	378	559	912	....	3,323
Total....	20,347	6,337	9,226	11,080	....	46,990
Second-Class Private Bath.						
Men.....	18,334	12,065	12,323	14,198	....	56,920
Women....	3,133	999	1,934	4,170	....	10,236
Total....	21,467	13,064	14,257	18,368	....	67,156
Jewish Bath Department.						
Women....	1,169	....	....	....	....	1,169
Total number of bathers.....	118,482	66,638	76,364	96,868	12,093	370,445

## BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

	Kent-st.	Woodcock-st.	Northwood-st.	Monument-rd.	Small Heath.
Date of opening	May 12, 1851	Aug. 27, 1860	Mch 5, 1862	Mch 1, 1883	July 9, 1883
Cost of build- ings, including furnishing, but exclusive of ma- chinery, etc.	£ 17,261	£ 7,647	£ 9,638	£ 19,969	£ 600
Cost of boilers, engines, pump- ing machinery, heating ar- rangements and sinking wells, etc.	£ 4,410 About 300 yards of this land was re- sold.	£ 2,440 About 850 yards reserv- ed for future extension.	£ 1,245	£ 4,272	Cost of sink- ing a well for a pro- posed suite of baths on a reserve por- tion of park land £1350. Cost of erec- tion of a water tower, water tank, gas engine and deep water pumps, £785
First Class Swimming Bath :	86 ft. 6 in. long by 38 ft. wide.	38 ft long by 14 ft. wide.	62 ft. long by 31 ft. wide.	80 ft. long by 32 ft. 9 in. wide.	
	Dressing boxes, 54	Dressing boxes, 6	Dressing boxes, 48.	Dressing boxes, 50.	
Second Class Swimming Bath :	87 ft. long by 35 ft. wide	80 ft. long, 35 ft. 6 in. wide.	68 ft. long, 32 ft. 9 in. wide.	68 ft. long by 32 ft. wide.	133 ft. long, 72 ft. wide.
	22 dressing boxes, and accommoda- tions for 75 without dressing boxes.	40 dressing boxes, and accommoda- tions for 75 without dressing boxes.	24 dressing boxes, ac- commoda- tions for 75 without dressing boxes.	Accommo- dation for 120 bathers.	
First-class Baths :					
Private hot and cold water or slipper baths	Men's, 30 Women's, 6	Men's, 16 Women's, 6	Men's, 21 Women's, 4	Men's, 17 Women's, 4	

	Kent-st.	Woodcock-st.	Northwood-st.	Monument-rd.	Small Heath.
Second-class Baths :	Men's, 24 Women's, 7	Men's, 16 Women's, 8	Men's, 22 Women's, 4	Men's, 17 Women's, 7	
Turkish Bath Department :	1 department, constructed in 1879 out of old buildings formerly used as a public workhouse, and consisting of 14 dressing rooms, 2 hot rooms, 1 shampooing room, 1 plunge bath, 1 large cooling room, etc			1 department, consisting of : 18 dressing rooms, 3 hot rooms, 1 shampooing room, 1 plunge bath, 1 large cooling room, etc.	

#### SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADMISSION TO THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS.

##### First Class Swimming Bath:—

Single tickets .....	6d.
Book of 20 tickets .....	8s.
Members of Swimming Clubs .....	4d.
Pupils of Grammar Schools, etc., 100 tickets for ....	25s.
Hire of bathing drawers .....	1d.
Hire of ladies' bathing dresses .....	3d.
Use of an extra towel .....	1d.

##### Second Class Swimming Bath:—

Single tickets, with the use of a private dressing-room	3d.
Single tickets, without a private dressing-room.....	2d.
School boys are admitted at special times; books of 1000 ½d. tickets .....	£2 1s. 8d.
School boys and girls are admitted at special times; books of 200 1d. tickets .....	16s. 8d.

##### First Class Private Bath:—

Warm bath, with two towels .....	6d.
Cold bath, with two towels .....	3d.

##### Second Class Private Baths:—

Warm bath, with one towel .....	3d.
Cold bath, with one towel .....	1d.

Shower baths are included in the above named charges, and soap tablets are supplied at 1d. extra.

Turkish Bath Department, including shampooing and the use of a private dressing room. Hot rooms (three), lounge and smoke rooms, needle douche, shower and plunge bath, one shilling.

Liverpool,  
England.

The present Baths Committee was elected in November, 1892. The members found the property committed to their charge in a much neglected condition. An entirely new

system was immediately adopted. A careful inspection of all the baths and washhouses was made, and various hygienic and other improvements introduced. So great was the popularity of the Burlington Street open air baths, built by the new committee, that it was decided to look out for sites for more open-air baths in other populous districts of the city. In the course of 1896 the Committee expected to supply heated salt water to the Burlington Street Baths. The Committee was not content with providing public baths, but has erected standpipes in crowded districts to supply salt water to the doors of the people, and this has enabled many mothers to give their children salt water baths at home. Liverpool was probably the first city in England to own its public baths. A building was purchased from a private bathing establishment in 1794 at a cost of about £4,000, and about £1,000 was expended on alterations. These baths were removed in 1820 to make way for docks, and it was not until 1828 that new baths—the Pierhead Baths—were opened. Owing, among other things, to a treacherous foundation, the structure cost £24,481 up to the date of opening, and has continued to cost a large amount annually. Since 1851 the question of reconstructing these baths has been periodically before the Committee, but small repairs only have been made, sufficient to keep the bath going. Several of the baths, including the ladies' swimming pool, are in such a dangerous condition that they are not used.

**Open Air  
Baths.**

The Committee has, without any sacrifice of efficiency, shortened the hours of labor of its employees, and studied their comfort, and this with a saving of £1,000 on the cost of administration.

The scale of charges varies according to the location of the baths, and the accommodation provided. Cold fresh water baths are given at 1d. upwards, at five of the baths, but are not much favored even at this rate. Private warm baths and swimming baths range from 2d. to 1s. 6d. and vapor baths cost 1s. to 2s.

**Fresh  
Water  
Baths.**

In 1893 the Committee decided to issue swimming club contracts, giving the holders the privilege of bathing in a stated bath two evening per week, from April 1st to October 31st (sixty-two baths) for the sum of 5s. per contract, equal to under one penny per bath, not less than twenty-five tickets being issued to one club. In 1895 775 of these contracts were issued, but were only used 20,295 times, less than half the number to which the holders were entitled.

**Annual  
Contracts.**

Annual contracts were issued, for the first time, in 1893, at the sum of £1 1s. each. In 1895 184 of these were issued and were used 16,812 times, or an average of just 91 times. In 1894 the same privileges were extended to any of the city's permanent employees for the sum of 7s. 6d. but were not very largely availed of. Only forty-three of these contracts were issued in 1895, and these were used only 1,443 times, or less than thirty-four times by each holder.

Special tickets for the use of schools are sold in packages of 250 at one half penny each, entitling the holders to bathe in a body in charge of a responsible person in the second-class plunge in any establishment except the Pierhead, between 7 and 8 a. m., and 5 and 6 p. m., Mondays to Fridays, and between 7.30 and 9 a. m., Saturdays, but arrangement must be made with the superintendent what time each school may bathe. The number of these bathers was 38,500 in 1895, a large increase on previous years. In addition to this, penny and two-penny school tickets are issued, and 64,792 were used in 1895, making a total of school bathers of 103,292.

**Experi-  
ment.**

The Baths Committee has now resolved (as an experiment) to grant free plunge baths to children attending schools within half a mile of the Margaret Street Baths, and this will undoubtedly educate the children in habits of cleanliness, and tend to make them regular visitors in the future.



## SUMMARY OF ESTABLISHMENTS, GIVING THE COST OF EACH AND THE ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED.

Establishment.	Cost of Site.	Total Cost.	Date of opening.	Private Slippers Baths.	Other Baths.	Where wash-houses are provided and No. of stalls.	Plunge.	Remarks.
Pierhead. ....	Unknown	£43659 13 3	1828	11	2 Vapor 1 Douche		One 46 ft. 6 in. x 27 ft. One 40 ft. x 27 ft. Two small private plunges.	All salt water baths except one private slipper bath.
Cornwallis St. ....	£1703 15 0	£27945 3 4	May 5, 1851	56	3 Vapor		One 60x40 ft. One 43x27 ft. One 40x27 ft.	Bath, salt and fresh water.
Margaret St. ....	£ 700 0 0 (Leasehold only)	£11320 4 9	June 18 1863	24	1 Vapor		Two 67 ft. 6 in. by 34 ft.	Fresh water.
Westminster Road.	£3150 0 1	£17122 1 6	Apr. 1877	41	1 Vapor		One 84x34 ft. One 62x34 ft. One 18x18 ft.	Fresh water.
Stable St. ....	£1857 15 0	£14490 0 5	Apr. 16, 1874	40		54	One 52x38 ft. One 51x38 ft. One 40 ft. x 8 ft. 6 in.	Fresh water.
Lodge Lane. ....	£1552 0 0	£18548 6 1	Aug. 1878	35		54	One 61 ft. 8 in. x 30 ft. 1 in. One 63 ft. 8 in. x 32 ft. 1 in. One 35x9 ft	Fresh water.
Burroughs Gardens	£3970 14 0	£21784 0 5	Jan. 22, 1879	37		103	One 58 ft. 9 in x 28 ft. 3 in. One 30 ft. 9 in. x 13 ft. 6 in.	Plunge bath, salt water, private bath, fresh water.
Frederick St. ....		£ 4450 15 2	May 28, 1842			60		Washhouse only.
Burlington St. ....		£ 700 0 0	July 8, 1895				One 75x60 ft.	Plunge bath, open air, fresh water, free.

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR 1895.

Establishment.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			Excess of Expenditures over Receipts.			Excess of Receipts over Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Pierhead .....	1153	11	5	1081	18	9	...	...	...	71	12	8
Cornwallis Street .....	1723	6	1	1458	13	11	...	...	...	264	12	2
Margaret Street .....	829	0	4	844	12	9	15	12	5	...	...	...
Westminster Road .....	825	12	4	1058	4	7	232	12	3	...	...	...
Stebble Street .....	1024	12	2	1182	3	2	157	11	0	...	...	...
Lodge Lane .....	1166	15	9	1246	19	5	80	3	8	...	...	...
Burroughs Gardens .....	1035	17	5	1457	7	5	421	10	0	...	...	...
Frederick Street .....	266	8	11	425	4	3	158	15	4	...	...	...
Burlington Street .....	...	...	...	75	12	6	75	12	6	...	...	...
Incidental .....	...	...	...	38	15	5	38	15	5	...	...	...
Totals .....	8025	4	5	8869	12	2	1180	12	7	336	4	10

Total excess of expenditures over receipts, £844 7s. 9d.

## NUMBER OF BATHERS DURING THE YEAR 1895.

	Men.		Women.		Total.
	Private Baths.	Plunge Baths.	Private Baths.	Plunge Baths.	
Pierhead .....	3,744	45,649	168	*	49,561
Margaret Street .....	12,345	49,953	1,396	*	63,694
Cornwallis Street .....	25,815	66,751	4,372	8,027	104,965
Lodge Lane .....	18,207	45,568	1,030	...	64,805
Westminster Road .....	18,218	49,265	874	...	68,357
Stebble Street .....	13,924	41,544	492	...	55,960
Burroughs Gardens .....	16,400	34,131	2,551	...	53,982
Totals .....	108,653	332,861	10,883	8,027	460,424

\*Closed.

Limited  
to Boys.

The free open air swimming bath at Burlington Street, limited to boys under the age of fifteen years, was opened on July 8th. The water was not heated, but, notwithstanding this, the bath was well patronized. During the months of July and August the average weekly attendance was over 16,000. The class to which these boys belong is evident from the fact that nine-tenths of them come without shoes or stockings.

London,  
England.

In "Municipal" London over half a million pounds, or two and a half million dollars, is invested in public baths and laundry establishments, which cost £110,000 yearly to maintain. Besides the parishes of which details are given the following have baths and washhouses in operation:

Parish.	Date of Erection.	Accommodations.	No. of bathers 1894-95.	Charges.	Time Open.	Laundry.	No. Washers.
Pattersea .....			120,841	{ Private 2d to 6d } { Swimming 1d to 6d }	{ 9.30 to 6.30 summer } { swim open Sundays }		
Bermondsey .....	1854		103,521	{ Private 2d to 6d } { Swimming 2d to 4d }			25376
Camberwell .....			180,000	{ Private 1d to 6d } { Swimming 2d to 6d }		1½d per hour	
Dulwich .....			100,000	{ Private 1d to 6d } { Swimming 2d to 6d }		None	
Hampstead .....	1888	{ 4 swim and } { 24 private }				Under private management	
Rotherhithe .....	1881		106,923	Private 1d to 6d		{ 1½d per hour } { after 3 hrs 2d }	14597
St. George-in-the-East.	1888		81,697	{ Private 1d to 6d } { Swimming 1d to 4d }		1½d per hour	17475
St. Pancras :							
King-st. ....	1868			{ Private 3d and 6d } { Swimming 6d - }	{ 6 a. m. to 10 p. m } Summer	1½d per hour	
Whitefield-st. ....	1879			{ Private 1d to 6d } { Swimming 2d to 6d }	Sundays 6 to 9 a. m.		
St. Saviour, Southwark	1895			.	{ 9 to 9.30 summer } Sundays 7 to 9	{ 1½d first hr } { and 1d each } { succeeding hr }	

Besides these parishes, the following have commissioners appointed and bathhouses in course of erection: Bethnal Green, Clerkenwell, Deptford, Fulham, Hackney, Lambeth, Ratcliff and Shoreditch.

Following are details of some of the more important London baths:

**St. Mary,  
Stratford,  
Bow.**

The Vestry voted to establish baths and washhouses on October 30th, 1888, and the baths were opened on July 27th, 1892. The initial expenses were:

	£	s.	d.
Land .....	4,270	0	10
Buildings .....	29,887	3	7
Engineering plant .....	6,599	0	0
Furniture, utensils and fittings..	1,130	1	1
Total .....	£41,886	5	6

For this five loans, aggregating £42,000, were obtained from the London County Council at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. interest. In 1895-6, £1,904 of the principal was repaid, and £1,228 3s. 6d. interest. The debt will be entirely liquidated in 1922, the loans being repayable in from ten to thirty years.

The accommodation provided is as follows: First-class swimming pool, water area 90 feet by 30 feet (charge 6d.), with 52 dressing boxes.

Second-class swimming pool, water area 86 feet by 30 feet (charge 2d.), with 71 dressing boxes.

Fifteen men's first-class private baths; warm, 6d.; cold, 3d.

Thirty men's second-class private baths; warm, 2d.; cold, 1d.

Four women's first-class private baths; warm, 6d.; cold, 3d.

Eight women's second-class private baths; warm, 2d.; cold, 1d.

**Steam  
Driven.**

The public laundry has forty washing troughs and forty drying horses, together with steam driven wringers and mangles, ironing stoves, tables and other conveniences. The charge is  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, which includes a plentiful supply of hot and cold water. In 1895-6 there were 25,711 washers, against 27,639 for the previous year, a decrease of 1,928, caused by the fine weather, but the number of hours occupied was 98,505½ against 97,673, an increase of 632½ hours. Of these 25,711 women, 4,975 only stayed one hour, 1,873 one and one-half hours, and 2,523 two hours, while 142 stayed twelve hours.

The following summarizes the number of baths taken in the three full years, during which the baths have been open:

	1895-96.	1894-95.	1893-94.
Private baths—men .....	48,663	39,723	36,485
Private baths—women .....	12,494	9,881	10,515
Swimming baths—men .....	49,468	35,045	54,066
Swimming baths—women ....	3,231	1,358	633
Vapor bath .....	24	40	56
Spray baths .....	36	48	92
Family tickets, vapor baths ...	21	..	..
Family tickets, men's private baths .....	3,816	3,569	2,910
Family tickets, men's swim- ming baths .....	5,146	4,671	5,647
Family tickets, women's pri- vate baths .....	1,139	898	988
Family tickets, women's swimming baths .....	268	348	546
Club bathers .....	3,794	3,609	2,147
School bathers .....	7,232	3,320	2,018
Board School bathers .....	9,425	3,411	3,380
Totals .....	144,757	105,921	119,483

It should be noted that the summer of 1894 was exceptionally cold and the winter following the severest for years.

The working expenses were:

	1895-6.	1894-5.	1893-4.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wages and salaries .....	1076 10 8	1054 3 4	1042 12 2
Coal .....	460 17 9	486 4 9	455 8 2
Rates and taxes .....	380 5 6	380 5 6	312 1 8
Water .....	339 2 0	296 16 0	265 6 8
Gas .....	94 6 6	100 11 1	99 9 11
Soap and soda .....	32 4 9	51 7 1	46 7 1
Repairs .....	109 13 5	81 0 0	78 19 2
Printing and advertising ..	48 12 6	65 17 5	69 7 6
Insurances .....	48 0 0	48 0 0	40 10 0
Oil, etc. ....	27 3 4	.. ..	.. ..
Accountant .....	10 10 0	10 10 0	10 10 0
Fog abatement .....	.. ..	2 2 0	.. ..
Statement rating returns ..	.. ..	.. ..	5 5 0
Sundries .....	36 17 2	49 19 9	36 1 0
Totals .....	£2664 3 7	£2626 16 11	£2461 18 4

#### RECEIPTS FROM BATHERS AND WASHERS, SALE OF SOAP, SODA, ETC.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1893-4.....	2420 12 0	1895-6.....	2045 10 9
1894-5.....	2024 18 2		



**Chelsea.**

Chelsea public baths were only opened in 1893, and have been well patronized. The number of bathers in 1894-5 was 93,913, and the charges are 2d. and 6d. It is now proposed to erect another set of baths with washhouses at Kensal Town. The land has been purchased, and plans drawn up. The cost is estimated at £12,700. The Commissioners propose to utilize heat obtained from a patent furnace which will consume the waste products of the district. This will mean a saving of £3,000. Washhouses have not yet been established.

**RECEIPTS.**

	Year ending March 25, '95.		Year ending March 25, '94.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
From Bathers .....	1213	15 10	1121	4 3
From rents .....	4	15 6	11	10 0
From interest .....	1	17 7	1	4 1
From weighing machine ...		16 10	...	...
Totals .....	£1221	5 9	£1133	18 4

**EXPENDITURES.**

	Year ending March 25, '95.		Year ending March 25, '94.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Insurance, rates, taxes .....	131	18 6	95	17 6
Repairs and maintenance of buildings .....	355	12 0	559	0 1
Gas .....	122	6 6	110	12 7
Coal .....	378	3 8	306	6 8
Water .....	274	14 8	259	9 4
Salaries and wages .....	1542	10 0	1322	16 0
Furniture .....		13 3		49 4 8
Printing and stationery ....	49	3 1	127	1 2
Soap and soda .....	23	3 11	24	8 4
Towels, bathing drawers, etc.	28	15 0	137	19 10
Sundries .....	22	18 9	6	5 0
Totals .....	£2929	19 4	£2999	1 2

**Green-  
wich.**

Baths and washhouses were established in 1850. Last year over 90,000 persons used the baths, though a falling off of 18,000 in numbers was caused by the opening of the Woolwich baths and the cold season. Charges are from 1d. to 6d., and the baths are open in summer from 6 a. m. to 9 p. m., Saturday until 10 p. m., Sunday from 7 to 10 a. m.

Loans were taken as follows:

August, 1850 .....	£7000
October, 1851 .....	2500
March, 1877 .....	2000
July, 1892 .....	1000
March, 1893 .....	500

Total ..... £13,000

Of this amount £11,854 has been repaid.  
The receipts for the year ending March 25, 1896, were:

	£	s.	d.
Bathers .....	969	0	1
Washers .....	52	12	11½
Soap .....	45	4	5
Rents .....	16	11	0
Sale of old materials .....	4	9	0
Total .....	£1087	17	5½

Expenditures for corresponding period

were:

	£	s.	d.
Salaries and wages .....	709	16	4
Fuel .....	234	13	9
Gas .....	62	0	4
Chandlery and soap .....	62	12	7
Rates, taxes and insurances .....	42	11	0
Furniture and utensils .....	10	0	0
Repairs and maintenance .....	170	18	10
Printing, stationery and advertising .....	36	12	5
Petty cash .....	12	18	7
Total .....	£1342	3	10

The Parish of St. Mary, Islington, only adopted the Baths and Washhouses Acts in August, 1889, but the commissioners appointed went to work with a will, and Islington now has three extremely fine public baths. The Caledonian Road baths were opened in May, 1892, and the Hornsey Road baths in July, 1892. The need for such establishments was evident by the fact that up to March 31, 1895, 1,002,735 bathers and 169,515 washers were accommodated, a total of 1,166,323 persons, while the receipts from these sources amounted altogether to £16,666 17s. 7d. The Tibberton Square baths were only opened in April, 1895, so no figures can be given. It will be noticed that a large payment is made for water. London does not possess its own water works, so the public baths have to help pay the heavy profits the water companies make. The increase in the number of women swimmers is the more remarkable as the total attendance fell off, owing to the unfavorable season. School Board children are admitted at the low price of 1d. and for the year ending March 31, 1895, 6,952 visited the Caledonian Road baths, and 14,240 the Hornsey Road baths.

**Islington.**

**Heavy  
Profits.**

Each of the establishments has a wash-house connected with it. At first the women were slow in taking advantage of the many conveniences provided. Barely fifty women

**Barely  
Fifty  
Women**

used the laundry at Hornsey Road the first week, but since then the numbers have reached 1,100 in a single week. The whole accommodation is often taken up, and sometimes a number of women are waiting their turn.

The original cost of the buildings was as follows:

	Caledonian-rd.			Hornsey-rd.			Tibberton-sq.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Purchase of site .....	7,614	8	6	2,189	4	3	6,063	13	6
Erection of building .....	14,154	16	1	24,199	12	2	21,672	0	0
Engineering and machinery ....	3,502	18	3	5,948	11	9	4,994	0	0
Architect, surveyor and clerk of works .....	1,556	1	3	2,458	2	1	2,195	2	10
Furnishings and fittings .....	365	1	5	402	5	11	.....	.....	.....
Electric light installation .....	.....	.....	.....	1,317	19	0	.....	.....	.....
Compensation for disturbance ...	.....	.....	.....	50	0	0	.....	.....	.....
Totals .....	27,193	5	6	36,565	15	2	34,924	16	4

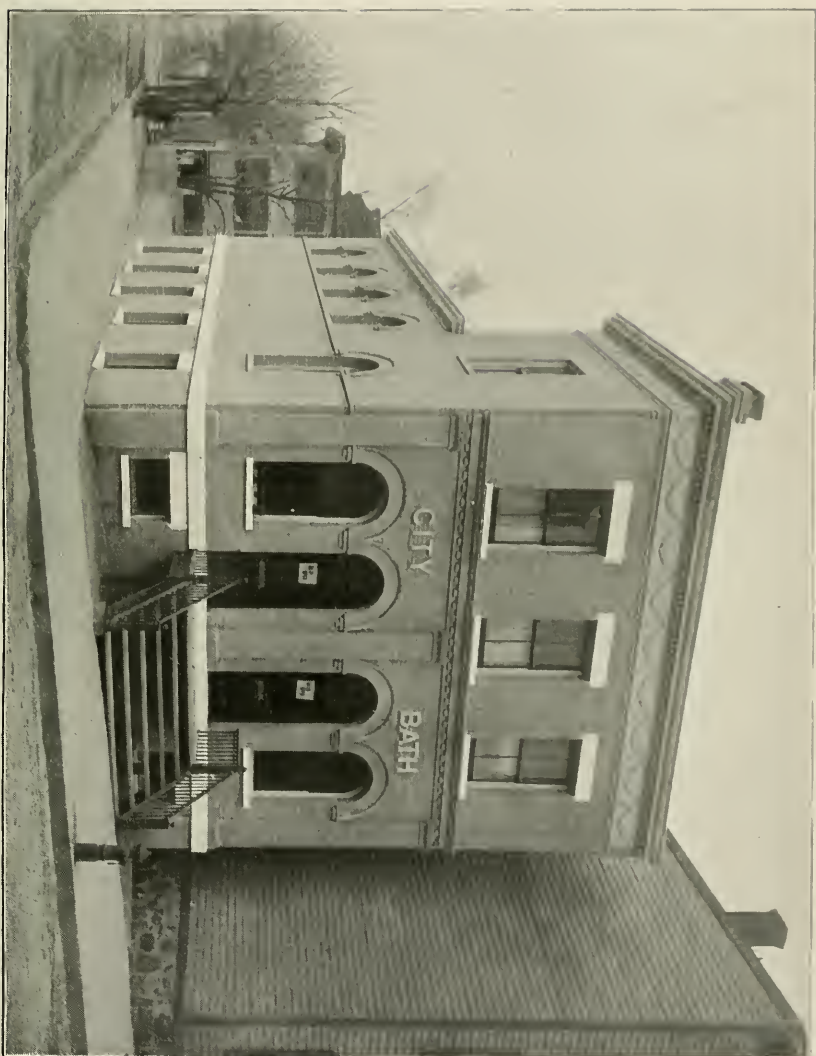
#### ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED.

	Caledonian-rd.	Hornsey-rd.	Tibberton-sq.
Swimming Baths:—			
Area First Class .....	90×30 ft.	132×40 ft.	90×30 ft.
Area Second Class .....	75×25 ft.	100×35 ft.	94×30 ft.
Area Women's .....		75×25 ft.	50×20 ft.
Dressing Boxes:—			
First Class .....	.....	93	.....
Second Class .....	.....	71	.....
Women's .....	.....	47	.....
Private Baths:—			
Men's .....	42	74	58
Women's .....	16	34	33
Washing Stalls .....	26	49	65

Depth, all baths, 3 feet 6 inches to 6 feet 9 inches.

#### WORKING EXPENSES, YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1895.

	Caledonian-rd.			Hornsey-rd.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages and disbursements .....	1079	15	5	1357	6	11½
Rates, taxes and insurance .....	112	1	6	164	5	3
Coal and coke .....	543	12	5	1022	0	1
Water .....	561	0	11	1089	19	2
Gas .....	161	4	1	21	13	5
Soap, soda, disinfectants, etc. ....	49	13	10	109	19	2
Brushes, brooms, pails, etc. ....	19	2	9	20	8	0
Engineer's stores, etc. ....	53	8	3	120	9	0
Ticket books, India rubber stamps, etc. ....	43	11	8	60	17	1
Drapery, drawers, costumes .....	27	11	0	36	6	0
Other expenses .....	59	16	0	120	15	5
Total .....	£2710	17	10	£4123	19	6½



Yonkers City Bath. Designed by Samuel L. Cooper, Commissioner of Public Works, Yonkers, New York. (See page 61.)





## RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1895.

	Caledonian-rd.			Hornsey-rd.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Private baths .....	861	4	4	1119	8	2
Swimming baths .....	782	1	0	1984	11	2
Laundry .....	644	13	2	545	1	1½
Soap, soda, etc., sold .....	20	13	7	31	9	7½
Hire of bath .....	7	12	3	46	13	0
Hire of hall .....	152	19	6	...	...	...
Sundries .....	...	...	...	7	7	...
Total .....	£2469	3	10	£3730	10	8
Loss on the year .....	£241	14	0	£393	8	10½

## NUMBER OF BATHERS FOR THE YEARS 1893-4 AND 1894-5.

	Caledonian-road.				Hornsey-road.			
	Year ending March 31, 1895.		Year ending March 31, 1894.		Year ending March 31, 1895.		Year ending March 31, 1894.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
First-class								
Private Baths ...	14,358	1,349	14,058	1,731	25,987	2,520	24,209	2,315
Second-Class								
Private Baths ...	46,292	10,863	19,318	11,475	35,734	13,844	33,575	13,135
First-Class								
Swimming Baths.	13,560	561	23,634	822	63,166	5,792	76,350	7,208
Second-Class								
Swimming Baths.	56,724	3,417	57,596	1,629	64,191	16,990	77,835	11,388
Totals .....	130,934	16,190	144,606	15,657	189,078	39,146	211,969	34,046

## PRIVATE HOT AND COLD BATHS.

First Class: Hot, 6d.; cold or shower, 3d. Including soap, use of flesh brush and two towels.

Second Class: Hot, 2d.; cold or cold shower, 1d.

## SWIMMING BATH.

First Class, 6d.; books of twelve tickets, 4s. 6d.

Second Class, 2d.

## NUMBER OF WASHERS.

	Caledonian-road.	Hornsey-road.
Year ending 31st March, 1895 .....	39,540	33,004
Year ending 31st March, 1894 .....	31,480	27,079

Charge: First hour, 1d.; second hour, 1½d.; every succeeding hour, 2d.

Kensington opened public baths in 1888, at a cost of nearly £60,000, divided as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Site .....	13,443	15	11
Building works .....	31,526	8	3
Engineering works .....	12,927	15	8
Completion of and fitting up men's second-class swimming bath in 1889 .....	1,388	11	11

Total ..... £59,736 11 9

Kensington,  
London.

Eight loans, amounting altogether to £59,700, were obtained, those for the site repayable in fifty years, for building work in thirty years and for engineering work in twenty years. More than a quarter of these loans have already been repaid.

The accommodation includes:

Men's Swimming Baths.	Size.	Depth.	Water Capacity.	Dressing Compartments.
First class.....	87x46½ ft	3 ft 7 in x 6¼ ft	126,000 gals	50
Second class.....	50x31¼ ft	3 ft 2 in x 5 ft 7 in	44,000 gals	35
Third class.....	61x24¾ ft	3 ft 7 in x 5 ft 7 in	43,000 gals	52
Women's swimming bath .	61½x22½ ft	3 ft 2 in x 5 ft 7 in	40,000 gals	31

Private Baths.	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.	Total.
Men's .....	13		34	47
Women's .....	7	20		27
Total....	20	20	34	74

Charges vary from 1d. for a third-class cold, and 2d. for warm or swimming bath, to 3d. for a first-class cold, 6d. for a warm, and 8d. for a swimming bath. Reduction on quantities of swimming tickets taken, which are transferable, reduce the cost of a first-class swim to 6d. if ten tickets are taken and to 5d. if one buys one hundred tickets.

The laundry contains sixty washing compartments, with the usual conveniences, and fifty-five drying horses. It is open from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. all the year round at a charge of 1½d. per hour. The first eleven months, 13,950 women attended for 38,709½ hours. In 1889-90, the numbers increased to 31,113 women and 84,352 hours, while in the year ending March 25, 1896, 55,550 women stayed 123,703½ hours. Of the total number, 16,037 women stayed only one hour, and 16,147 two hours. The average time was 2¼ hours at an average charge of 3 2-5d. per head.

The receipts of the baths and washhouses for the year ending March 25, 1896, were:

	£	s.	d.
Bathers .....	1,495	15	8
Washers .....	785	18	9½
Soap sold to bathers .....	17	18	4
Soap, soda, blue, starch, etc., sold to washers	14	0	7½
Swimming entertainments .....	9	9	0
Use of weighbridge .....	1	1	6
Old stores .....	1	0	6
Total .....	£2,325	4	5

The expenses for the same period were:

	£	s.	d.
Rates, taxes and insurance .....	448	1	7
Salaries and wages .....	1563	3	6
Water .....	501	17	0
Gas .....	168	5	6
Fuel .....	601	13	8
Soap, soda, blue, starch, etc. ....	31	7	3
Brushes and brooms .....	16	12	10
Engineer's requisites .....	44	3	3
Furniture .....	9	4	7
Printing, stationery and advertising .....	79	2	0
Repairs and maintenance .....	253	13	10
Various small expenses .....	24	7	10
Total .....	£3741	12	10

The number of bathers, though not equal to the best recorded, showed an increase over the previous year.

	Men.		Women.		Total.
	Swimming Bath.	Private Baths.	Swimming Bath.	Private Baths.	
1892-3 .....	52,537	36,912	5,642	9,185	104,276
1893-4 .....	65,319	39,939	5,065	9,475	119,798
1894-5 .....	47,400	37,273	4,485	8,202	97,360
1895-6 .....	53,943	40,950	5,949	9,249	110,091

The Lewisham baths, unlike most of the English public baths, for the first two years after opening yielded a small profit on the working expenses. For the eleven years during which they have been in operation there has been an average deficit of £351 os. 6d. The commissioners have had the floors of the first-class swimming bath relaid during the winter, and helped to swell the receipts by letting the halls for entertainments. The Ladywell Baths are also used for a gymnasium in the winter. Women are admitted to the first-class swimming pool at the Forest Hill Bath on Wednesdays from 10 a. m., to 6 p. m., and on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a. m., to 1 p. m., and to the Ladywell Baths on Tuesdays from 10 a. m. to 6 p. m., on Thursdays from 11 a. m. to 6 p. m., and on Saturdays from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m. The remainder of the time, from 6 a. m. to 9 p. m., week days, is given to the men. The loans of £28,200 for the erection of the baths were obtained from the old Metropolitan Board of Works (the predecessor of the London County Council) at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The annual installments at present amount to £1073 6s. 8d. and the interest for 1895-6 was £634 19s. 8d. The buildings actually cost for construction: Ladywell, £14,581 16s. 5d., and Forest Hill. £13,801 3s. 6d.

Lewisham,  
London.

## RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 25, 1896.

	Ladywell Baths.	Forest Hill Baths.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
From bathers .....	887 5 5	542 8 5	1429 13 10
Sale of soap tablets .....	9 11 3	4 19 6	14 10 9
Hire of bathing dresses ...	23 15 0	17 5 10	41 0 10
Hire of extra towels.....	1 19 1	17 4	2 16 5
Hire of swimming baths for entertainments and committee rooms for meetings .....	188 1 4	86 4 4	274 5 8
Sale of slate slabs and old brick wall .....	9 5 0	... ..	9 5 0
Totals .....	£1119 17 1	£651 15 5	£1771 12 6

## WORKING EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 25, 1896.

	Ladywell Baths.	Forest Hill Baths.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Coal and fuel .....	114 0 4	94 5 0	208 5 4
Gas .....	61 0 11	50 5 1	111 6 0
Water .....	232 3 9	173 1 4	405 5 1
Repairs and maintenance ..	117 16 1	110 5 4	228 1 5
Soap and soda .....	3 19 6	3 4 3	7 3 9
Soap tablets .....	5 8 0	2 16 3	8 4 3
Wages .....	422 16 0	390 2 3	812 18 3
Rates, taxes and insurance	123 11 10	119 15 4	243 7 2
Towels (1009 @ 6s. 4½d per dozen) .....	13 7 9	13 8 3	26 16 0
Laying and removing win- ter flooring, including repairs .....	26 8 11	20 10 6	46 19 5
District Surveyor's fees ...	9 12 6	4 12 6	14 5 0
New platform (first-class hall) .....	14 19 3	... ..	14 19 3
Painting and varnishing swimming baths .....	82 14 8	31 3 4	113 18 0
Enlarging artistes' room ..	31 18 7	... ..	31 18 7
New vertical boiler and connections to hall ....	72 10 0	... ..	72 10 0
Covering boilers and pipes with asbestos .....	19 1 10	8 19 11	28 1 9
Re-seating boilers and fix- ing new stack pipes ....	... ..	49 2 3	49 2 3
New greenhouse (balance) ..	... ..	16 3 4	16 3 4
New water supply .....	413 14 0	... ..	413 14 0
Clerk's salary .....	... ..	... ..	50 0 0
Printing, stationery, adver- tising and general ex- penses .....	... ..	... ..	79 0 0
Totals .....	£1765 3 11	£1087 14 11	£2981 18 10

The deficiency thus amounted to £1,210 6s. 4d. Of this amount £413 14s. 0d. was an extraordinary expenditure for new water supply, while other structural alterations should



not strictly be included in working expenses, but be charged to capital account.

## NUMBER OF BATHERS, 1895-6.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Ladywell .....	59,125	6,960	66,085
Forest Hill .....	39,818	5,520	45,338
Totals .....	98,943	12,480	111,423

## SCALE OF CHARGES.

	£	s.	d.
First-Class Swimming Bath, each (adults) .....	0	0	6
First-Class Swimming Bath, per dozen .....	0	5	0
First-Class Swimming Bath, children under 12, accompanying adult .....	0	0	4
Second-Class Swimming Bath, each .....	0	0	2
Second-Class Swimming Bath, children attending public elementary schools .....	0	0	1
First-Class Private Bath, each .....	0	0	6
First-Class Private Bath, per dozen .....	0	5	0
Second-Class Private Bath, each .....	0	0	2
Season tickets .....	1	1	0
Season tickets, children under 12 .....	0	10	6
Private schools and swimming clubs, on production of club membership or school card .....	0	0	4
Visitors (admitted to gallery of First-Class Swimming Bath) ..	0	0	2
Hire of bathing dresses or drawers .....	0	0	1
Extra towel .....	0	0	1
Soap .....	0	0	1

This parish erected baths and washhouses in 1848 at a cost of £23,671. The annual average cost (£3,200) slightly exceeded the receipts from bathers (£2,750). For the year ending March, 1894, the receipts were £3,097, working expenses, £2,957. There were 153,000 bathers and 36,000 washers. The establishment comprised four swimming baths and 105 private baths. The average annual receipts from washers were £850, accommodation being provided for sixty-one workers. The laundry was fitted up with drying horses, ironing stove with irons, tables and blankets, mangles and hydro-extractors. The baths had become so inadequate and obsolete that several clubs had had to go elsewhere. The building is being entirely rebuilt and reconstructed and the commissioners intend that it shall be complete in all respects, with internal arrangements of the most approved character, but at the same time nothing extravagant in design or detail is to be permitted. The ornamental tiles in the old building will be made use of again. The cost will be £43,800. The building will not be entirely completed before March 1st, 1897.

**Marylebone,  
London.**



**Padding-  
ton,  
London.**

The Paddington Baths were erected in 1874, and the entire amount borrowed will be repaid by 1902. The bicycle craze afforded a means of utilizing the large swimming bath in the winter as a cycle school. During the year 1895-96 the Commissioners paid off £400 still owing for extra washing compartments, and erected a washer at a cost of £42. An extra charge of £250 for water, an increase of 50 per cent., was made by the water works company. The summer of 1895 was unusually warm, and this, with the fact that the Marylebone baths had been pulled down to erect a larger building, caused an increase of the receipts over the previous year of £671 2s. 7½d., and an increase of £55 12s. od. over 1892-93, the best previous year.

Year of Opening.	Cost of Erection.	Average Annual Cost.	Average Annual Receipts from Bathers.	Accommodation.		
				No. of Baths.	No. Provided For.	Lowest Charges.
1874	£56,529	£4,021	£3,680	4 swimming 96 private	229 96	2d. swimmi'g 2d. hot 1d. cold

#### RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1896.

	£	s.	d.
Bathers .....	3,218	9	1
Washers .....	616	3	2½
Soap, etc. ....	91	19	7
Hire of hall .....	211	3	6
Hire of rooms .....	109	9	2
Other receipts .....	154	0	7
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>£4,401</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1½</b>

#### EXPENDITURES FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1896.

	£	s.	d.
Repairs and maintenance of building .....	743	2	0
Salaries and wages .....	1,341	12	2
Rates, taxes and insurance .....	462	14	10
Water .....	630	8	8
Gas and electricity .....	208	6	10
Coal and coke .....	559	7	2
Soap and soda .....	36	12	8
Printing, stationery and advertisements .....	48	11	5
Engineer's supplies .....	18	7	8
Towels .....	113	4	4
Brushes .....	16	4	6
Various expenses .....	92	13	2
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>£4,271</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>

#### NUMBER OF BATHERS AND WASHERS.

Year.	Swimming Baths.	Private Baths.	Total No. of Bathers.	Washers.
1892-3 .....	81,490	99,305	180,795	19,853
1893-4 .....	104,483	102,189	206,672	18,110
1894-5 .....	73,625	99,109	172,734	20,450
1895-6 .....	98,371	117,858	216,229	19,814

Among those who took swimming baths were 4,125 children from the Board Schools, who paid 1d. each.

Poplar baths were opened in 1852, so that the annual repayment on loans now amounts to only £315, and the interest in 1895-6 was £129 10s. 11d. Charges vary from 1d. to 1s. for baths, and 1½d. per hour in the laundry.

**Poplar,  
London.**

The cold season of 1894 resulted in a considerable falling off in the receipts and number of bathers, which was, however, retrieved the following year. In 1894-5 substantial repairs were undertaken in the second-class swimming bath and five new porcelain first-class private baths were added. The Commissioners recommend considerable alterations in the laundry, which needs a new and substantial flooring. It is desired to replace the old, worn-out hand wringer by a steam-driven one, as the labor of working a wringer by hand is far too heavy for women. A steam washing machine for the towels, and a new mangle were also required if the laundry was to be brought up to modern standards.

The receipts for the past two years were as follows:

	1894-5.			1895-6.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Poplar School Swimming Club .....	23	2	0	23	2	0
Poplar School Girls' Swimming Club ....	19	19	0	10	10	0
London School Board .....	6	10	11	2	13	8
Other bathers .....	1384	0	10	1688	14	11
Washers .....	347	17	3	315	3	0
Totals .....	£1781	10	0	£2040	3	7

The expenditures for the same period were:

	1894-5.			1895-6.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries and wages .....	1003	4	5	1040	6	10
Repairs and maintenance .....	257	18	0	170	7	2
Coal and coke .....	291	8	5	219	13	9
Water .....	165	17	8	145	10	0
Gas .....	80	2	3	51	8	6
Rates, taxes and insurance .....	53	13	6	54	11	0
Printing and stationery .....	32	15	0	24	13	0
Soap .....	30	10	0	37	14	1
Towels .....	51	18	0	20	0	7
Brushes, brooms, etc. ....	18	0	2	30	14	2
Uniforms .....	10	19	11	15	6	5
Ironmongery .....	19	1	7	22	6	3
Small expenses .....	20	14	1	23	1	11
Totals .....	£2036	3	0	£1855	13	8

The numbers using the establishment for the same period were:

	1894-5.	1895-6.
Bathers:—		
Men .....	78,970	92,914
Women .....	6,517	7,718
Children .....	12,616	16,990
Totals .....	98,103	117,622
Washers .....	10,025	9,244
No. of hours worked .....	55,658	50,424

St. George,  
Hanover  
Square,  
London.

The Davies Street Baths were erected in 1855, at a cost, including washhouse accommodation, of £16,000. The average annual cost is £4,320, while the average annual receipts from bathers are only £1,486. There is one swimming pool and forty-seven private baths. The laundry provides accommodations for thirty-six washers at an annual average cost of £671.

The Buckingham Palace Road baths were rebuilt in 1890 at a cost of £45,238. To meet the great demand for hot water it was found desirable that the boilers should all be interchangeable for steam and hot water. Steam injectors are used to warm the swimming baths. The laundry is placed in the rear at the top of the building, being reached by an elevator. The flooring was strengthened for the hydro-extractors, and additional rivets placed in the girders to prevent vibration.

#### RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 25, 1895.

	Davies-street.	Buckingham Palace-road.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Receipts from bathers .....	1112 11 1	2342 2 1
Soap sold to bathers .....	38 17 6	104 0 4
Receipts from washers .....	581 9 6½	655 1 2
Soap and soda sold to washers ....	4 18 1½	3 1 11
Totals .....	£1737 16 3	£3104 5 6

#### EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 25, 1895.

	Davies-street.	Buckingham Palace-road.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wages and disbursements .....	941 2 7	1563 8 11
Rents, rates, taxes and insurance ..	266 9 4	516 7 9
Coal and coke .....	376 11 4	728 16 4
Water supply .....	248 3 0	626 18 5
Gas .....	140 17 7	17 5 6
Soap and soda .....	55 1 5	105 14 7
Maintenance of building .....	1433 10 5	794 15 8
Engineer's stores .....	14 13 6	123 12 3
New towels and drawers .....	123 14 10	285 12 1
Sundries .....	102 0 0	152 19 8
Totals .....	£3702 4 0	£4915 11 2



Deptford (London), Public Baths, Wash-houses and Municipal Buildings under the same roof. This combination enables each department to effect a saving in initial cost.



Shoreditch (London), Public Bath-houses and a Public Library under the same roof. Estimated cost \$150,000.





## NUMBER OF BATHERS AND WASHERS.

	Bathers.		Washers.	
	Davies-street.	Buckingham Palace-road.	Davies-street.	Buckingham Palace-road.
Year ending March 25, 1895.	77,452	130,296	22,482	22,821
Year ending March 25, 1894.	90,874	185,472	20,904	.....

## SCALE OF CHARGES.

	s.	d.
First Class, cold bath .....	0	3
First Class, warm bath .....	0	6
Second Class, cold bath .....	0	1
Second Class, warm bath .....	0	2
First-Class Swimming Bath .....	0	6
First-Class Swimming Bath (girls under 12) .....	0	4
Second-Class Swimming Bath .....	0	3
Swimming Costume .....	0	2

## Washers.

One hour or less .....	0	1
Between one and two hours .....	0	2½
Between two and three hours .....	0	4½
Every subsequent half-hour .....	0	1

These parishes took early advantage of the Baths and Washhouses Act and erected a public bath and washhouse in 1853 at a cost of £20,000. There are two swimming pools, with forty-six dressing boxes and seventy-three private baths. The washhouse is fitted with hot air chambers for drying, Perkin's stoves and ironing boards, and contains accommodation for fifty-four washers. The establishment was closed for several months during 1893-4 for repairs, so that the receipts show a large decrease.

St. Giles-  
in-the-  
Fields and  
St. George,  
Blooms-  
bury,  
London.

## RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 30, 1894.

	£	s.	d.
Cash from bathers .....	776	12	6
Cash from washers .....	1118	5	10
Cash from sale of soap .....	29	16	11
Cash from book tickets .....	17	0	0
Total .....	£1941	15	3

## EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 30, 1894.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries and wages .....	865	4	10
Water .....	243	19	8
Gas .....	103	5	0
Coal and coke .....	581	17	8
Soap and soda .....	26	1	0
Ironware .....	13	5	7
Washing towels .....	29	0	0
Machinery repairs .....	49	17	11
Insurance .....	13	9	9
Rates and taxes .....	120	9	4
Printing and stationery .....	41	1	8
Furniture .....	36	13	9
House repairs and expenses .....	67	9	0
New toweling and making .....	51	9	9
Total .....	£2243	4	11

## NUMBER OF BATHERS.

	Private Baths.		Swimming Baths.	Total Bathers.	Washers.
	Men.	Women.	Men only.		
1892 .....	74,506	10,634	16,767	101,907	17,977
1893 .....	79,183	13,272	17,721	110,176	45,549
1894 .....	36,600	10,959	9,818	57,377	44,399

## SCALE OF CHARGES.

	First Class.	Second Class.
	(With 2 towels, brushes, etc.)	(With 1 towel)
Swimming Bath .....	4d.	2d.
Private Bath, warm .....	6d.	2d.
Private Bath, cold .....	3d.	1d.
Shower Bath, warm .....	6d.	4d.
Shower Bath, cold .....	3d.	2d.

Books containing 140 2d. bath tickets may be purchased at £1 each.

Washing places with wringing machines, drying closets, mangles and irons: For the first two hours, 1½d. per hour; for each subsequent hour, 2d. per hour; for each half-hour, 1d.

**St. James,  
West-  
minster,  
London.**

In 1846 "An Act to Encourage the Establishment of Public Baths and Washhouses" was passed. This act is permissive in character, and provides means for the establishment of baths and washhouses in such towns and parishes whose members determine to avail themselves of the privilege by local taxation. The act was passed in August, and in December the Vestry of St. James decided to adopt the act and build a bath and washhouse. The action was significant because at that period local municipal life was not particularly vigorous. In addition, no experience offered any guide as to the cost of such buildings, the necessary means of providing the desired accommodations, the extent to which such facilities would be used. The same difficulty confronted St. James as New York; namely, the great difficulty of securing a site, as almost all available land had been taken. However, loans were placed and a building was erected in 1852, containing a laundry with fifty-six compartments, forty-five washing baths for men, fourteen for women, and a swimming bath forty feet by thirty feet. The building was opened in June and from that time to the end of the year 74,643 bathers and 8,600 washers used the establishment. In 1853, the numbers rose to 108,008 bathers and 32,648 washers.

The pressure was so great for improved accommodations, especially for women, that the plant was extended in 1861. As a proof that cleansing baths were demanded, in 1865 the maximum attendance was reached, when 160,480 tickets were issued to bathers and 70,057 to washers.

As conveying the idea of the extent to which this bath has been used, the following tabulation is eloquent.

Cost of erecting (in 1851) and furnishing, and extending (in 1861) the establishment .....	£21,000
Amount borrowed and repaid .....	21,000
Interest .....	13,062
Total .....	£34,062
Total payments from the Poor Rate .....	£34,971
Less surplus receipts paid at various times by the Commissioners in relief of the Poor Rate .....	9,350
Net charge on the Poor Rate (spread over a period of 45 years)...	£25,621
Number of tickets issued to washers from the 14th of June, 1852, to the 31st of December, 1892 .....	2,051,366
Number of bath tickets issued during the same period .....	4,639,413
Total number of tickets issued .....	6,690,779
Total receipts from bathers and washers from June 14, 1852, to December 31, 1892 .....	£121,893

The practical advantages of economy and the provision of suitable accommodations through the year is illustrated by St. James, which for £25,621 secured a freehold site and building complete for carrying on a large bath business, whereby six and three-quarter millions of bathers and washers have used it in the more than two score years since it was opened.\* In 1890, the bath commissioners began to take under advisement the provision of a swimming bath. A public inquiry was held in the parish and although previous notice of the inquiry had been widely circulated, only three taxpayers objected. The cost of the swimming bath now opened is slightly in excess of £6,000. The water surface of the bath is sixty feet by twenty-two feet. A fountain has been fitted up at one end, insuring a constant though small current of fresh, tepid water throughout the whole length of the bath, thus combining the effects of a gentle running stream with the safety of an enclosed bath. The bottom and sides of the bath, up to the water level, are white glazed tiles upon which is an ornamental, hand-painted tile frieze. Dressing boxes are placed in a series of arched recesses along the sides of the bath. The present accommodations at the St. James Public Baths and Washhouses consist of the following:

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\* Upwards of 150,000 tickets have been issued every year, and the receipts average rather more than the working expenses.

## ACCOMMODATIONS.

## Swimming Baths:—

One 60 feet by 22 feet. One 40 feet by 30 feet.

## Private Baths:—

First Class: 23 for men. 13 for women.

Second Class: 41 for men. 13 for women.

## SCALE OF CHARGES.

Swimming Bath:—	s.	d.
First Class .....	0	6
Second Class .....	0	2
Second Class (Sundays) .....	0	3
Private Baths:—		
First Class, warm (use of two towels) .....	0	6
First Class, cold (use of two towels) .....	0	6
Second Class, warm (use of one towel) .....	0	2
Second Class, cold (use of one towel) .....	0	1

## RECEIPTS.

	1893.			1894.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Bathers (including payments for swimming instruction) .....	1550	6	0	1616	3	10
Washers .....	1400	15	2	1342	4	9
Soap, etc. ....	119	2	10	118	3	5
Totals .....	£3070	4	0	£3076	12	0

## WORKING EXPENSES.

	1893.			1894.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries and wages .....	1222	12	5	1197	1	1
Printing, stationery, advertising ...	93	2	8	46	18	8
Fuel .....	457	3	10	423	8	6
Gas .....	148	15	6	142	10	0
Water .....	391	19	0	410	19	0
Rates, taxes, insurance .....	76	11	7	139	4	7
Soap, soda, etc. ....	68	19	4	72	12	1
Engineer's supplies .....	100	13	1	89	9	2
Renewals and repairs .....	80	16	3	185	8	3
Towels, costumes, etc. ....	97	16	0	...	...	...
Brushes .....	18	13	10	21	0	9
Miscellaneous disbursements .....	56	5	2	40	12	6
Totals .....	£2813	8	8	£2769	4	7

## NUMBER OF BATHERS.

	1893.	1894.
Private Baths:—		
Men—First Class .....	22,167	21,765
Men—Second Class .....	46,575	44,999
Women—First Class .....	5,342	5,112
Women—Second Class .....	19,043	19,383
Swimming Baths:—		
Men—First Class .....	4,728	10,439
Men—Second Class .....	25,211	21,178
Women—First Class .....	465	1,990
Totals .....	123,531	124,866



## LAUNDRY STATISTICS.

Number of stalls, 84. Inclusive charge, 2d. per hour.

	1893.	1894.
Number of washers .....	43,681	44,570
Number of hours .....	168,091	161,068½
Average hours per washer .....	3.81	3.50

The public baths of St. Martin's were opened in 1849 at a cost for erection, fitting, etc., of £20,140. There is no swimming bath, but sixty-one private baths, at which a charge is made of 6d. first-class and 2d. second-class for a warm bath, and 3d. first class and 1d. second class for a cold bath. The laundry has provisions for sixty-one washers, and is situated on the second floor. There are tubs with hot and cold water, with a second tub with steam pipes attached behind the washing tub for boiling, drying horses heated by coke fires, wringing machines, and stoves for heating irons. The charges are 1½d. the first hour, 2½d. one hour and a half, 3d. for two hours and 1d. for each succeeding half-hour.

St. Mar-  
tin-in-the-  
Fields,  
London.

## RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1893.

	£	s.	d.
From bathers .....	950	6	10
From washers .....	741	14	8
Soap sold .....	46	14	2
Use of extra towels .....	1	15	3
Total .....	£1740	10	11

## EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1893.

	£	s.	d.
Wages and salaries .....	772	0	6
Repairs and maintenance .....	992	5	6
Rent .....	78	0	0
Rates, taxes and insurance .....	93	18	5
Water .....	189	5	6
Gas .....	77	6	8
Coal and coke .....	634	2	4
Soap and soda .....	14	17	5
Towels .....	52	12	11
Rubber goods .....	32	15	6
Various disbursements .....	38	8	5
Total .....	£3075	13	2

The first Westminster public baths were opened in 1851, and were only the fourth of their kind in London. They were entirely rebuilt in 1893 at a cost of £32,800, and wash-houses opened in connection with them. Next door is the chief Westminster Public Library, an extremely fine building, opened at the same time, to take the place of the old building across the street. The proximity of the library to the baths is a peculiarly for-

West-  
minster,  
London.



fortunate one, and should greatly assist the popularity of both. At the request of the Vestry, the Commissioners of Baths undertook to construct their furnaces so as to destroy part of the house refuse, and permission was given to them to form vaults under the sidewalk and pavement to receive the refuse. On the upper floors are placed the board room, the superintendent's office and his private apartments, the laundry and the engineer's apartments. The first-class swimming bath is 132 feet long by 31 feet; the depth varies from three feet to seven feet. Over one hundred dressing boxes are provided. The polo goals are fitted with nets and bells, the length of play being seventy-five feet and depth of water for polo four feet six inches to seven feet. There is a special platform for water polo referees and a diving board for learners at the half distance. Quite a number of swimming clubs, including several ladies' clubs, make these baths their headquarters, and special arrangements are made for them. Entertainments are frequently given at the baths, over 2,000 spectators being accommodated at the International Entertainment of the Ravensbourne Club. A popular innovation is the water chute, which is used by scores of merry bathers. The baths are under the superintendence of Mr. Charles Newman, who has his whole heart in the work, and many encomiums have been bestowed on his management by London and Provincial Commissioners who have visited them. The boys from the public elementary schools are admitted either on payment of the sum of 1d. or on a special voucher signed by the head master or mistress free. Mr. Newman teaches these boys swimming for the pleasure he takes in it, but often he has to stop the boys whom he finds so hungry as to be unequal to the exertion. Mr. Newman has saved five people from drowning, and has the Royal Humane Society's medal for saving life. In winter the first class swimming bath is closed, the second-class one being used for first-class bathers half the week and for the second-class on the other days, and the water kept at a temperature of 75 degrees. The laundry is fitted up with washing troughs, steam drying horses, mangles, irons, three hydro-extractors, and a ventilating fan. There is accommodation for eighty-four washers, who are expected to provide their own soap and starch, but may buy them at the laundry.

#### ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED.

Swimming Baths: One 132 feet by 31 feet; 3 diving boards, spring board and water chute. One 74 feet by 24 feet; 2 diving boards.  
Number of Slipper Baths: First Class, 20 for men, 8 for women; Second Class, 26 for men, 8 for women.

## SCALE OF CHARGES.

	s.	d.
First-Class Swimming or Private Baths .....	0	6
Second-Class Swimming Bath .....	0	3
Second-Class Private Bath .....	0	2

This establishment was opened in August, 1878, and is under the control of seven commissioners. The private baths are eighty-nine in number. The public laundry comprises thirty-eight washing compartments, with the necessary tubs, wringers, mangles and drying chambers. The charge of the laundry is three half-pence an hour, and the washhouses are open on week days only, throughout the year, from eight in the morning until eight at night. It was not until 1886 that swimming pools were opened at an expense of £5,639 16s. 1d. As usual there are two pools; the first-class, one hundred feet by thirty-two feet, the second-class fifty-three feet by twenty-eight feet.

White-  
chapel,  
London.

Two  
Pools.

## WHITECHAPEL (GOULSTON STREET).

	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886
Bathers:—									
First Class .	4,990	15,237	19,917	18,991	19,344	19,714	22,856	22,249	24,737
Second Class .	21,776	49,912	63,134	64,519	68,073	66,926	75,507	76,240	79,535
Totals . . .	26,766	65,149	83,051	83,510	87,417	86,640	98,363	98,489	104,272
Washers . . .	5,624	26,964	28,321	29,824	27,693	25,681	24,442	23,461	21,960

	1887	1888	1889	1890-1	1891-2	1892-3	1893-4	1894-5
Bathers:—								
First Class .	25,771	25,952	27,372	29,208	30,784	30,048	29,726	21,908
Second Class .	84,115	88,411	93,647	98,403	103,913	102,444	99,338	73,433
Totals . . .	109,886	114,363	121,019	127,611	134,697	132,492	129,064	95,341
Washers . . .	20,956	21,826	21,018	20,595	20,563	18,730	17,256	11,326

## NUMBER OF BATHERS USING THE SWIMMING BATHS.

	1889-90	1890-1	1891-2	1892-3	1893-4	1894-5
Women's Second Class	.....	.....	2,277	1,181	{ 44,845 }	33,444
Men's Second Class ..	45,175	38,629	34,586	25,512		323
Women's First Class. .	530	317	415	609	{ 30,824 }	23,360
Men's First Class . . .	37,127	38,120	36,181	32,145		1,142
Totals .....	82,832	77,066	73,459	59,447	75,669	58,269

RECEIPTS OF BATHS AND WASHHOUSES FOR THE PARISH OF  
ST. MARY, WHITECHAPEL, FROM MARCH 25, 1893,  
TO MARCH 25, 1895.

Receipts from Warm Baths.	Receipts from Wash-houses.	Receipts from sale of Soap.	Receipts from Swimming Baths.	Receipts from Swimming Clubs.	Receipts from Bathing Dressing.	Interest on Deposit.	Total Receipts from all sources.
1893-4 £1559	£541	£24	£841	£388	£136	£7	£3496
1894-5 £1149	352	16	546	368	89	6	2526

EXPENDITURES FOR BATHS AND WASHHOUSES FOR THE  
PARISH OF ST. MARY, WHITECHAPEL, FROM  
TO MARCH 25, 1895.

	Repairs, Fittings, Maintenance, etc.	Costs re New Loans	Purchase Money, Rent, Interest, etc.	Repayment of Principal of Loans.	Interest paid on Loans.	Salaries and Wages.	Fuel.	Rent, Rates and Taxes.	Alterations and Additions.	Architects and Engineers.	Insurance.	Gas.	Water.	Printing and Stationery.	Incidentals.	Total Payments.
1893-4	£254		£113	£422	£251	£917	£632	£174			£32	£134	£399	£26	£152	£3506
1894-5	£135	£32		422	236	762	472	115	750	86	32	112	376	56	95	3681

Edin-  
burgh,  
Scotland.

At the Edinburgh baths a charge of 2d. is made to each visitor. Lessons in swimming are given at a charge of 6d. each lesson, 5s. for twelve, to adults; 3d. each lesson for boys and girls, 2s. for a course of twelve lessons. There are two swimming pools, the small first-class one being reserved for women on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and part of Saturday. Special arrangements are made for School Board children at reduced rates at fixed hours.

PRIVATE PLUNGE BATHS.

	s.	d.
Reserved Special, First Class, each person .....	1	0
First Class, each person .....	0	6
First Class, twelve tickets .....	5	0
Second Class, each person .....	0	3
Second Class, twelve tickets .....	2	6

SWIMMING BATHS.

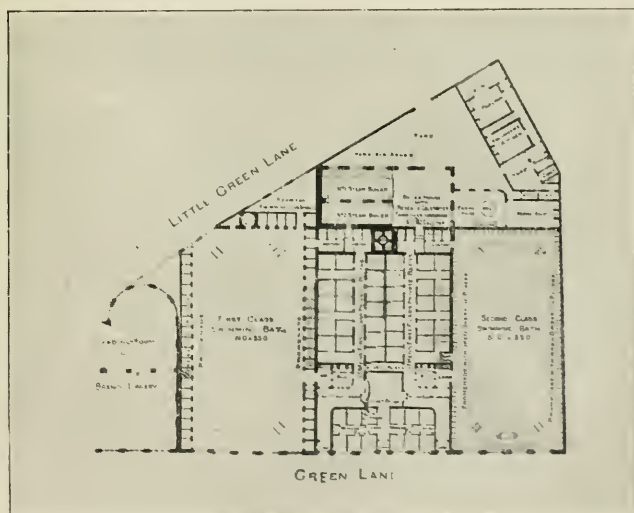
First Class, each adult person .....	0	4
First Class, twelve tickets .....	3	0
First Class, boys and girls under 14 years .....	0	3
First Class, twelve tickets .....	2	0
Second Class, each adult person .....	0	2
Second Class, twelve tickets .....	1	6
Second Class, boys and girls under 14 years .....	0	1½
Second Class, twelve tickets .....	1	0
Restricted charge for school children .....	0	1
Use of bathing pants, per pair .....	0	0½
Use of bathing costume .....	0	1
Use of bathing cap .....	0	0½

Glasgow,  
Scotland.

Glasgow is not satisfied with providing public baths for the use of its citizens, but aims to create a demand for these necessities of cleanliness and health. It was actually proposed to teach everybody swimming gratuitously, and for this purpose to establish small, properly-equipped teaching pools in every school. As the same bathers and washers come with great



Opening Exercises of the Public Baths at Essex Road, Islington (London). The dedication of public baths is an occasion of civic importance, instanced by the presence of the Rt. Hon. George John Shaw Lefevre, M.P., President of the Local Government Board; Mr. Cohen, M.P. for East Islington, and Sir Albert K. Rollit, M.P. for South Islington.



The Ground Plan of the latest Public Bath for Birmingham, England. Note that the building will contain a branch of the Public Library. This city now operates five other baths.





regularity, it was estimated that the numbers using the baths and washhouses were only about 5,000 swimmers, 5,000 hot bathers and 3,000 washers. This does not represent a very large proportion in a city of 700,000 population. Another suggestion made was to erect smaller washhouses throughout the city. Experience proves that a supply of public facilities for washing clothes creates a demand even in localities where every tenement has its own wash-house and drying court. Of the washers more than half reside within the radius of a quarter of a mile and very few outside the half-mile limit.

Up to 1895 the Corporation had undertaken to wash the linen of families at its establishments at reasonable rates, employing for this purpose thirty-two washers and ironers. The receipts in 1894-5 were £1,378 4s. 1d.; expenses, £1,130 4s. 1d., leaving a net surplus of £248. The Factory and Workshops Act of 1895 introduced certain regulation in laundries "carried on by way of trade or for the purposes of gain," which would have involved considerable expense. This the Corporation was unwilling to undertake. For this reason, and also on advice that the power to carry on such a business for profit was not legally bestowed on the city by the Act of Parliament providing for the erection of baths and washhouses, it was resolved to discontinue employing assistance, and in future only to have the towels, etc., used at the baths done by the Corporation's employees.

Trade.

	Greenhead.	Woodside.	Cranston Hill.	Townhead.	Gorbals.
Date of opening	Aug. 19, 1878	Sept. 13, 1882	May, 1883	June 8, 1894	April 17, 1885
Total cost of erection of buildings and fittings	£11889 8 8	£10102 4 10	£15089 2 5½	£6861 18 4	£24890 8 8¼
Large Pool—					
Capacity, gals.	73592	96440	104000	96440	97552
Area	75x35 ft	75x40 ft	78 ft 6 in by 42 ft 6 in	75x40 ft	73x39 ft
Depth	3 to 6 ft	3 ft 6 in to 6 ft 10 in	3 ft 8 in to 6 ft 4 in	3 ft 6 in to 6 ft 10 in	4 to 7 ft
Small Pool—					
Capacity, gals.	20878	23923	38551	34539	21139
Area	35x25 ft	40x24 ft	52x28 ft	44x28 ft	38x21 ft
Depth	2 ft 8 in to 5 ft	2 ft 10 in to 5 ft 4 in	3 ft 4 in to 5 ft 6 in	3 ft 6 in to 5 ft 8 in	3 ft to 5 ft 6 in
Dressing Boxes—					
In large pool	50	60	77	82	54
In small pool	22	30	34	29	13
Hot Baths—					
Men 2d-class	8	13	19	12	12
Men 1st-class	20	14	12	15	14
Women	4	7	10	6	6
Kosher (Jewish)	0	0	0	0	1

	Greenhead.	Woodside.	Cranston Hill.	Townhead.	Gorbals.
Washhouses—					
Washing Stalls	44	67	73	78	54
Hydro Extractors	3	4	4	4	4
Washing Machines	6	6	8	6	6
Wooden Boilers	2	2	2	2	2
Mangles	1	1	1	1	1
Stenter Rooms for drying					
Curtains	0	0	1	0	1
Size of Laundry tables	20x18 ft		25x24 ft	28x13½ ft	27x13 ft
	13x3 ft		Two, each 13 ft x 3 ft 6 in	6 ft x 4 ft 9 in, 12½ ft x 5 ft	9 ft x 3 ft 8 in

## SCALE OF CHARGES.

	s.	d.
Swimming Pools:—		
Adults .....	0	2
Boys and girls under 13 years .....	0	1
Women, twelve tickets .....	1	6
Boys and Girls, twelve tickets .....	0	9
Season Tickets:—		
Men, six months, April 1 to September 30 .....	10	0
Men, twelve months, January 1 to December 31 ....	12	6
Women, six months, April 1 to September 30 .....	3	0
Women, nine months, March 1 to November 30 .....	4	0
Swimming club members, 13 tickets for the price of 12.		
Use of Pools (to clubs) between 9 and 10 p. m.		
Large pool, one night weekly, 40 bathers .....	6	8
For each additional bather .....	0	1
Small pool, one night weekly, 24 bathers .....	4	0
For each additional bather .....	0	1
Private Hot Baths:—		
Men, First Class, each bather .....	0	6
Men, Second Class, each bather .....	0	4
Tickets in parcels of 12 each, First Class .....	4	6
Tickets in parcels of 12 each, Second Class .....	3	0
Women, each bather .....	0	3
Women, tickets in parcels of 12 .....	2	3
Washhouses:—		
For use of stall, wringing and drying appliances, hot and cold water, per hour .....	0	2
Use of washing board .....	0	1

## RECEIPTS FROM BATHERS, 1894-5.

Greenhead.	Woodside.	Cranston Hill.	Townhead.	Gorbals.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
916 8 8	1059 5 4	814 7 11	1030 7 7	1472 1 11	5292 11 5

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

Year.	Bathers.	Washings.	Receipts.			Expenditures.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1891-2 .....	514,233	162,458	9,722	0	1	12,449	4	1
1892-3 .....	510,449	170,687	9,629	4	4	11,420	9	6
1893-4 .....	546,024	173,327	9,640	13	8	11,218	12	10
1894-5 .....	527,313	197,035	10,288	0	0	12,294	0	0

The decrease in the number of bathers in 1894, as compared with the preceding year, is due to the unfavorable weather. Notwithstanding this, the revenue showed an increase, owing to the extraordinary increase in the number of washers. How largely the temperature of the air effects the number of bathers may be seen from the following table for the months of June to November, 1891:

	June.	July.	August.			September.			October.		Nov	
Weekly Average Temperatures Corresponding with weekly Receipts from Ponds.	70°	67°	66°	64°	63°	60°	59°	58°	57°	51°	48°	47°
	£135	£125	£97	£98	£96	£68	£66	£48	£35	£26	£20	£13

## DEFICIT PROVIDED FROM ASSESSMENTS.

1891-2 .....	£2776	4	0	1893-4 .....	£1578	0	0
1892-3 .....	£1791	5	2	1894-5 .....	£2006	0	0

Berlin has earned well-merited commendation for the excellence of its baths, but it does not yet consider the provisions made sufficient, and has four large city baths and several river baths in process of erection. Though there is, as would be expected, a deficit on the river baths, the city derives a small profit from the baths taken altogether. The following is the balance sheet for 1894-5:

**Berlin,  
Germany.**

## RECEIPTS.

By River Baths .....	\$9,605
By City Baths:—	
(a) Moabit .....	11,916
(b) Schillingsbrücke .....	18,407
	<hr/>
	30,323
Berlin Society for People's Baths .....	900
	<hr/>
Total .....	\$40,828

## EXPENDITURES.

River Baths .....	\$12,447
City Baths:—	
(a) Moabit .....	\$11,620
(b) Schillingsbrücke .....	14,071
	<hr/> 25,691
Total .....	\$38,138
Surplus .....	2,690
	<hr/> \$40,828

1. *River Baths.*

There is usually a considerable deficit on these baths, caused by the large number of free cards given. The Poor Commission and the City Orphan Asylum issued 22,696 of these cards in 1894-5, which were used on an average sixteen times. The previous year 20,380 cards were used an average of twenty times each. Besides this, children from several institutions are admitted free without tickets. There was a large increase in the number of bathers in 1893 in consequence of the warm weather, and there would probably have been a surplus, but the baths had to be closed a month earlier than usual on account of the cholera, and the wages of the attendants were paid in full. The season 1894-5 was a bad one, and there was a delay of two months in opening two of the baths. The prices had been reduced in many of the baths, and there were many expensive repairs. The largest attendance in 1894 was 23,775 in the seventeen baths on July 24th; 16,183 men and 7,592 women; this was 1,561 more than the best day—July 8th—of 1893, when 22,214 people bathed in seventeen baths. Two more new baths are about to be opened, and will largely increase the accommodation already provided. The number using the river baths in the season of 1894 was as follows:

	1894.			1893.		
	Free.	On Payment	Total.	Free.	On Payment	Total.
Men:—						
Old bathing establishments .....	185,372	108,944	294,316	240,634	125,918	366,552
New bathing establishments .....	59,566	184,876	244,442	60,780	246,496	307,276
Women:—						
Old bathing establishments .....	89,295	82,502	171,797	94,330	92,917	187,247
New bathing establishments .....	22,061	72,589	94,650	20,446	71,257	91,703
Totals .....	356,294	448,911	805,205	416,190	536,588	952,778





2. *City Public Baths.***Concessions.**

Berlin has at present two handsomely appointed public bathing establishments, containing swimming halls, slipper and douche baths. It is intended to build four similar establishments in various parts of the city during the next eight years, and the swimming pools are to be even larger, as the present ones have proved so attractive. In 1894, in consequence of complaints from private bathing establishments, it was agreed to build neither slipper nor douche baths of the first class, nor vapor baths, and the prices of slipper baths were raised. Not enough time has yet elapsed to judge of the first effect of this on the attendance, though the results for the year show a considerable falling off in first-class slipper baths, and in women's second-class slipper baths. Whether the private establishments are now satisfied or not, the city will make no further concessions, as it considers the public health demands this limit as the minimum requirement. The accommodation already provided is as follows:

	Moabit.	Schillingsbrücke.
Swimming pool :—		
Area.....	59 ft x 29 ft 6 in	52 ft 6 in x 26 ft 3 in
Depth (greatest).....	9 ft 10 in	
Dressing rooms :—		
Number.....	16	22
Area.....	3 ft 11 in x 3 ft 6 in	
Height of partition.....	7 ft 2 in	
Other dressing accommodation for	80	98
Slipper Baths :—		
Number 1st class.....	15	7 for men & 5 for women
Number 2nd class.....	42	25 " 20 "
Area.....	6 ft 6 in x 8 ft 2 in	
Height of partition.....	7 ft 2 in	
Douche Baths :—		
Number 1st class.....	7	9 for men, 3 for women
Number 2nd class.....	22	32 " 11 "
Area.....	8 ft 6 in x 4 ft 3 in	

The outlay for site and building of these two establishments was as follows:

	Moabit.	Schillingsbrücke.
Cost of buildings and machinery..	\$87,339 07	\$102,776 73
Cost of site .....	25,394 60	43,839 60
Cost of fittings .....	131 85	.....
Totals .....	\$112,865 52	\$146,616 33

## RECEIPTS.

	Moabit		Schillingsbrücke	
	1894-5	1893-4	1894-5	1893-4
By bathers .....	\$11,042 45	\$10,531 32	\$17,306 66	\$10,973 16
By profit on swimming instruction .....	162 55	139 11	138 87	73 84
By loan of towels, etc.:—				
(a) In swimming hall .....	363 63	395 94	576 84	356 18
(b) In other baths .....	25 97	16 60	15 55	7 88
By storing private towels, bathing drawers, etc. ...	183 26	139 53	134 95	85 50
By profit on soap and sea salt .....	62 40	52 66	72 07	28 46
By rent of dwellings to employes .....	.....	.....	155 22	116 41
By other receipts .....	75 43	1 90	6 67	2 73
Totals .....	\$11,915 69	\$11,277 06	\$18,406 83	\$11,644 16

## WORKING EXPENDITURE.

	Moabit		Schillingsbrücke	
	1894-5	1893-4	1894 5	1893-4
Salaries .....	\$3,923 27	\$3,727 43	\$4,849 87	\$3,347 61
Firing .....	2,999 14	3,055 60	3,064 01	2,343 25
Lighting .....	540 02	574 42	598 30	560 06
Water .....	2,680 36	2,464 73	3,238 47	2,316 57
Maintenance of buildings and machinery .....	529 94	419 45	911 34	121 07
Soap, soda, sea salt, etc. ....	357 14	350 84	641 36	378 66
Printing .....	147 27	138 25	172 35	160 25
125 dozen towels .....	.....	.....	278 16	.....
Various expenses .....	443 10	269 54	316 75	437 97
Total .....	\$11,620 24	\$11,000 26	\$14,070 61	\$9,665 44
Income .....	11,915 69	11,277 06	18,406 83	11,644 16
Surplus .....	\$295 45	\$276 80	\$4,336 22	\$1,978 72

The increase in the cost of the water at the Moabit baths was due to the fact that it was found impossible to use the deep wells, and the city water had to be used entirely. Two new wells are to be made and it is expected that three-quarters of the water can then be obtained from this source, while formerly, on account of the great quantity of iron in the water, it has only been possible to use two-thirds of the well water. It is estimated that the cost of the wells will be covered within a year by the lessened cost of the water.

Of the amount spent at this establishment for maintenance, \$216 was for tiling the walls of the two cleansing rooms attached to the swimming bath.

The following was the attendance at the baths for the last two years:

Cost of  
Water.

	Moabit				Schillingsbrücke			
	1894-5		1893-4		1894-5		1893-4	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Slipper Bath, First Class ...	9,384	2,633	12,667	5,143	9,247	2,457	8,918	3,165
Slipper Bath, Second Class...	42,414	22,157	42,513	24,827	57,824	33,795	39,550	24,234
Douche Bath, First Class...	3,056	431	3,639	.....	6,972	165	3,576	111
Douche Bath, Second Class..	20,821	2,510	13,940	2,733	69,229	7,743	33,317	3,520
Swimming Bath, over 14 .....	46,619	10,408	46,884	9,080	82,986	14,692	53,824	9,417
under 14 .....	18,700	9,606	18,052	7,654	30,481	10,872	18,065	4,392
Totals .....	140,994	47,745	137,695	49,437	256,739	69,724	157,250	44,839

### Moabit Baths.

The Moabit baths were first opened on November 1st, 1892. A severe winter followed. The attendance, 1893-4, showed a good increase. In 1894-5, the increase in prices previously alluded to caused a decrease in the number of first and second-class slipper baths, and of first-class douche baths taken. The unfavorable winter of 1894-5 also influenced the baths badly, so that there was only the very small increase of less than 1 per cent. The average attendance per day was 517, while in 1893-4 it was 512. During the months of January to March, 1895, the numbers using the swimming bath were 9,477 men and 1,854 women, and formed 34.7 per cent. of the total number of baths taken, while in 1894 the numbers were higher, 11,119 men and 1,952 women, but the percentage was smaller—33.6. The best attendance was on the Saturday before Whitsunday, May 12th, 1894, when 2,635 persons bathed—1,352 in the slipper baths, 482 in the douche baths and 801 in the swimming baths. The Saturday before Whitsuntide, May 20th, 1893, 2,145 people bathed, so that this showed an increase of 490 or 22.8 per cent. The least number of baths given was on January 1st, 1895—124—against 88 taken on January 5th, 1894. During the year 1894-5 swimming instruction was given to 363 persons—155 men and 158 women, while in 1893-4, 268 persons, of whom 143 were men and 125 were women, were instructed in this art.

### Art of Swim- ming.

On January 1st, 1895, women received the privilege of using the swimming bath on Monday evenings from 6.30 to 9, while before they had only been allowed the use of it from 10.30 a. m. to 12 m., and from 2 to 4 p. m. on week days. Owing to the colder weather no comparison can be made. From January to March 1,854 women used the swimming bath, compared to

1,952 who used it in 1894, but on the twelve evenings when it was open to them there was a total attendance of 419, or an average of thirty-five per evening.

The baths are open at 6 a. m. from April to September, at 7 a. m. during March and October, and at 7.30 a. m., from November to February. They close on Saturdays at 8 p. m.; on Sundays, in the summer, at noon, in the winter at 1 p. m., and on other days at 8 p. m.

The Moabit baths were built with a view to both suitableness and durability. Two-thirds of the swimming bath is set apart for swimmers, and there are two spring boards. The bath can be entirely emptied in eight hours and can be refilled in five hours. There are two cleansing cells, for adults and children. Each contains two head douches, one ray douche, one wash-basin and two tubs for the feet. Tepid water can be used before entering the swimming bath, but only cold must be used afterwards. On February 24, 1895, the Berlin Swimming League gave a grand entertainment in the bath, consisting of swimming and diving. The hall was decorated with flags for the occasion, and there was a very large attendance, including many of the city's representatives. Four swimming clubs use the baths one evening a week each. The first-class douches contain an extra ray douche of cold water, besides the head douche. Each douche-room is subdivided into dressing and bathrooms. Originally the water used was limited to ten and one-half gallons, but this did not work well, and with the present unlimited use no more water is actually used. Douches with tepid water are provided in the slipper bath. The rooms used for washing and drying the linen, etc., have the latest improvements.

**Berlin  
Swimming  
League.**

The Schillingsbrücke baths were only opened on Saturday, June 24th, 1893, so that it is not possible to properly compare the attendance with previous years. The time of opening and the situation of the establishment were very favorable, so that it soon outstripped all similar establishments. The greatest attendance was on the Saturday before Whitsunday, May 12th, 1894, when 4,502 baths were taken—1,599 slipper baths, 1,238 douche and 1,665 swimming baths. During the previous period of nine months the largest attendance was on Easter Eve, March 24th, 1894, when there were 3,278 bathers—1,413 slipper baths, 826 douche and 1,039 swimming baths. On Christmas Eve there was the large attendance of 2,711; of whom 1,125 took slipper baths,

**Schillings-  
brücke  
Baths.**



987 douches and 599 swimming baths. On thirteen Saturdays the attendance was between 2,000 and 3,100, and the attendance was usually over 1,000 on Saturdays. The least number of bathers in 1894-5 was 166 on January 1, 1895, as compared with 107 on January 1, 1894. The average number of bathers per day was 894 in 1894-5, and only 738 in the nine months of 1893-4 during which the establishment was open.

Few establishments in Germany can compare with these baths. City water is used almost exclusively, as it was found impossible to use the deep wells, on account of the quantity of iron contained in the water. It is particularly remarkable that the swimming bath was so well attended, as the winter was very unfavorable and nine river baths are situated near by. Of 139,000 who visited the swimming bath, 54,000 (39 per cent. or an average of 300 per day) attended during the winter months. A number of swimming clubs use the baths twice a week regularly throughout the winter. Swimming was taught to 260 persons—155 men and 105 women—in 1894-5, as compared with 117 persons—90 men and 27 women—who learned in the season of 1893-4. The douche-room of the swimming bath is divided into two parts, one for adults and one for children. The use of the hall was given free to a swimming club for entertainments on October 21, 1894 and March 17, 1895.

The rise in prices in the slipper and first-class douche baths resulted in a decrease in both men's and women's first-class slipper baths, and, compared with the corresponding period of the previous year, a slight decrease in women's second-class slipper and first-class douche baths. The men's douche baths have shown an increase of 50 per cent. and the women's of 52 per cent. On Saturday there are frequently more than 700 baths given in the men's department. The greatest numbers were 899 on December 24, 1894 and 1,040 on May 12, 1895. There are only forty-one cells for men and the pressure on them is very great. On Saturday and Sunday three of the women's cells are used for men. The extraordinary success of the douche baths, built after a plan recommended by Prof. Lassar, has proved their suitability to the needs of a working class population of small means.

The accommodations for washing the linen, etc., used, are the very best, being an improvement on the Moabit Baths.



## SCALE OF CHARGES FOR THE SCHILLINGSBRUCKE BATHS.

	Single Baths.	Club Tickets good for ½ year for	Price.	Monthly Ticket to begin any day at pleasure	Quarterly Tick- ets, to begin any day at pleasure	Besides soap given free with the bath.
Slipper Bath, 1st class	.14	6 baths	.71			Sheet and towel
“ “ 2d “	.07	6 “	.36			One towel
Douche Bath, 1st class	.06	5 “	.24			Two towels } For women
“ “ 2d “	.02					One towel } bathing cap
Swimming Bath (in- cluding use of douche)	.06	15 baths	.71	1.07	(only for pupils who can swim)	
“ “ under 14	.04	15 “	.48	.71		
Swimming Lessons for persons over 14					1.19	
“ “ under 14					.95	
Towel.....	.01					
Bathing Drawers.....	.01					
Bathing Cap } for {	.01					
Bathing Dress } women {	.05					
Bathing Sheet.....	.04					
Keeping and Drying towels and bathing costumes.....				.18	.48	

• Sea-salt and soap baths are also given.

For one pound of sea salt 4 cents, and for one pound of soap 7 cents additional are charged.

### 3. Baths of the Berlin Society for People's Baths.

When these two baths were built the city contributed \$26,000 and gave the site. In the two years 1893-4 and 1894-5 the Society paid into the city treasury each year \$900, amounting to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on this outlay. In 1894-5 the income was \$12,323.79, the previous year it was \$12,538.89, showing a decrease of \$215.10. The surplus at the two establishments was as follows:

	Oranienburg Baths.	Alt und Neu Kölln Baths.
1894-5 .....	\$1,892 10	\$617 18
1893-4 .....	1,489 87	908 74
	Increase \$402 23	Decrease \$291 56

The society proposed to turn the baths over to the city, but it was thought that too much alteration

would be required to fit them to the needs of municipal public baths.

**Oranien-  
burg.**

The opening of the Schillingsbrücke city baths, combined with the unfavorable season, caused a considerable decrease in the attendance at the Alt und Neu Kölln baths, especially in the slipper bath establishment, while the Oranienburg baths showed a fair increase. The attendance at the baths for the years 1893-4 and 1894-5, was as follows:

	Oranienburg Baths.			Alt und Neu Kölln Baths.		
	1894-5	1893-4	Increase or Dec'se	1894-5	1893-4	Increase or Dec'se
Slipper Baths:—						
Men .....	61,146	58,500	+2,646	54,718	59,665	—4,947
Women .....	25,692	24,463	+1,229	23,726	27,033	—3,307
Douche Baths:—						
Men .....	33,059	28,895	+4,164	29,798	30,701	—903
Women .....	989	1,122	—133	616	841	—225
Scholars .....	258	234	+ 24	161	440	—279
Totals .....	121,144	113,214	+7,930	109,019	118,680	—9,661

**Hamburg,  
Germany.**

As in all cities the earliest baths in Hamburg were river baths. The first building erected in connection with these baths was put up in 1847 in the Grasbrook, and since then has been greatly enlarged and removed to the Veddel, costing altogether \$32,249. There is dressing accommodation for 405 men, including twenty-five private cells, and for 486 women, including 156 private cells. In 1889 there were 160,000 men and 111,000 women bathers. In 1864 another bath was opened on the Alster, for men and boys. The swimming pool is 347 feet 9 inches long by 91 feet 10 inches wide and varies in depth up to 10 feet 6 inches. With the extensions in 1890 this bath cost \$33,087. There is accommodation for 100 in private dressing-rooms and 264 in the common dressing-room. A charge of 5 pfennigs (just over one cent) is made for a steamboat journey to and from this bath, but the bath itself is free. A third river bath was erected in 1869 on an artificial island in the Alster at a cost, with improvements in 1883, of \$9,996. The water here varies from 6 feet 6 inches to 8 feet 6 inches. The bathing place is especially frequented by boys. Dressing accommodation for 555 bathers is provided, including twenty-eight private rooms. In 1876 a fourth bathing establishment was erected in the Bille. This bath has a superficies of 44,132 square feet and contains 105 private dressing-rooms and other accommodations for 66 bathers. The cost was \$11,900. A swimming bath for women and girls was erected in the Bille in 1885, and since it was very much more frequented than had been expected,

**Gras-  
brook,  
Veddel,  
Bille.**

was enlarged in 1888. The total cost was \$9,758. The water varies from 3 feet 3 inches to 5 feet 3 inches. There are 64 private rooms and accommodation for 136 additional bathers. In the summer of 1886 this bath was used by 116,063 women and girls.

In 1855 an establishment was opened on the Schweinemarkt by the Patriotic Society. The site for this building was given by the city, and the water supplied by the city free, being afterwards, on account of the high situation of the establishment, used for flushing the city sewers. This building was the first in Germany erected after the English model. The cost was \$49,028. There are 24 first-class and 25 second-class women's slipper baths. These are 6 feet 6 inches by 5 feet 9 inches in size, and the partitions are 6 feet 6 inches high. The first-class baths are fitted with douches. There are also two rain baths. Stalls are provided for thirty-three washers. According to statute only 4 per cent. interest was allowed and the surplus went toward the extinction of the share capital. In 1880 the entire capital was paid back, but the city allowed the Society to continue working the establishment, on condition that it built a second, and still later a third, the same conditions applying as to the first. A building was erected on the Schaarmarkt in 1881 at a cost of \$74,970. It contained a swimming bath, 67 feet 3 inches by 27 feet 11 inches, the water varying in depth from 3 feet 7 inches to 7 feet 3 inches. The temperature is maintained at 72.5 degrees Fahrenheit by steam pipes. There are besides 7 first-class and 13 second-class men's slipper baths, and the same number of slipper baths for women. The use made of these two establishments in 1891 to 1894 was as follows:

**Patriotic  
Society.**

	Schweinemarkt.		Schaarmarkt.	
	No. of Bathers	Hours of Washing	No. of Bathers	No. of Swimmers
1891 .....	132,198	24,284	85,572	69,655
1892 .....	89,570	15,937½	57,773	45,659
1893 .....	107,105	17,513½	62,214	63,113
1894 .....	112,218	17,550½	65,185	103,944

The great decrease in the use of the baths in 1892 was caused by the outbreak of cholera. The city paid the company for the use of coal to sterilize the water used, by boiling and afterward cooling to required temperature. The large number using the swimming baths in 1894 was consequent on a 50 per cent. reduction of prices in this department.

**Cholera.**

The following is a statement of the working expenses for 1893 and 1894:

INCOME FOR 1893 AND 1894.  
SCHWEINEMARKT AND SCHAARMARKT BATHS.

	1893.		1894.	
	Schweine- markt	Schaarmarkt	Schweine- markt	Schaarmarkt
By bathers .....	\$9,569 78	\$5,248 14	\$10,031 96	\$5,477 97
By swimmers .....	.....	3,767 87	.....	3,652 09
By washers .....	833 64	.....	835 50	.....
By profit on soap .....	316 77	148 30	316 47	166 26
By profit on sea salt .....	27 56	10 28	24 54	15 14
By interest .....	18 02	.....	183 41	463 84
By extra towels, swimming girdles, etc. ....	91 57	37 54	.....	.....
By swimming instruction ...	.....	101 15	.....	97 58
Totals .....	\$10,857 34	\$9,313 28	\$11,391 88	\$9,872 88

EXPENDITURE FOR 1893 AND 1894.

	1893.		1894.	
	Schweinemarkt.	Schaarmarkt.	Schweinemarkt.	Schaarmarkt.
Interest on loans ..	.....	\$586 25	.....	\$714 00
Salaries .....	\$3,792 53	3,618 33	\$3,822 12	3,606 10
Fuel .....	1,410 29	1,277 55	1,322 50	1,449 90
Soap, soda, etc. ....	97 07	73 03	98 07	107 12
Gas .....	345 84	358 83	342 55	418 20
Printing .....	79 32	102 34	69 72	119 43
Artisans' work ...	608 56	445 01	404 49	310 84
Divers repairs ....	.....	.....	248 04	72 35
Divers payments ..	174 50	215 12	222 65	277 01
Small expenses ...	28 46	18 43	24 57	12 94
Ground rent and insurance .....	65 14	124 34	65 14	124 34
Totals .....	\$6,601 71	\$6,819 23	\$6,619 85	\$7,212 23

In 1893 a third bath was erected in the suburb of Eimsbüttel, on the Schäferkamp. This contains 60 slipper baths—12 first-class and 28 second-class for men, and 7 first-class and 13 second-class for women. Each bathroom is 6 feet 11 inches long by 6 feet 8 inches wide and the height is 9 feet 10 inches second-class and 11 feet 6 inches first-class. The swimming pool is 39 feet 4 inches wide, 63 feet 4 inches long, with a capacity of 105,668 gallons. There are 53 wooden dressing-rooms, each 4 feet 7 inches by 4 feet 1 inch, and 14 lockers. The dressing-rooms are entered from the corridor so as to avoid dirt. Every bather has to use the douche bath before entering the swimming pool, and a shallow tub is provided for the feet. The temperature of the hall in the slipper baths is maintained at 79 degrees Fahrenheit, the other rooms at 72 degrees Fahrenheit. This bath is managed

Avoid  
Dirt.



by the Society which manages the other two baths, the Society receiving city water free and paying interest on the \$90,440, cost of erection.

Both slipper and swimming baths are opened from 6 a. m. to 9 p. m. from April to September, 7 a. m. to 9 p. m. during March and October, and from 8 a. m. to 9 p. m. from November to February. Sundays and holidays they are opened at the usual time, but close at noon. Half an hour is allowed to each bather, and towels and bathing dresses are provided. In the slipper baths mothers may take a child under eight years of age in with them. The prices for baths at either of these three places are as follow:

#### SLIPPER BATHS (MEN AND WOMEN).

First Class (two towels) .....	\$0 12
First Class (16 tickets, not good on Saturdays after 5 p. m.) .....	1 67
Second Class (one towel) .....	07
Second Class (16 tickets, not good on Saturdays after 5 p. m.) .....	95
Sea Salt Baths, first class .....	36
Sea Salt Baths, second class .....	31

#### SWIMMING BATHS.

Without towel, but including bathing drawers .....	04
One year, not including washing of bathing apparel .....	5 95
Half year, not including washing of bathing apparel .....	3 09
Boys under 14, without towel, but including bathing drawers .....	02½
Boys under 14, one year, not including washing of bathing apparel .....	2 86
Boys under 14, half year, not including washing of bathing apparel .....	1 67
Use of towel .....	01
Keeping and cleansing of bathing apparel, per month .....	07
Swimming instruction, quarter year .....	1 19

In 1893 the municipality erected a public douche in St. Pauli, which was leased to the same Society which operates the baths previously mentioned. This bath is open all the year round, from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. in the summer and from 8 a. m. to 10 p. m. in the winter, closing on Saturdays at 12 noon. A charge of 10 pfennigs (2½ cents) includes the use of towel and soap. The bath is built after the pattern of the Frankfort-on-Main baths, and contains accommodations for ten men and four women. The douche apparatus is separated from the dressing-room by a rubber curtain, but this, not proving satisfactory, is to be replaced by an iron door. In the douche cell there is a deepening in the center, a seat which lifts up and is fitted with a hard rubber cushion

**Regulated  
Tempera-  
ture.**



and a soap dish. The water strikes the bather at an angle of 45 degrees, and the temperature can be regulated at pleasure. At first the water allowed was limited to thirteen gallons, but this was not a success, as the apparatus frequently went wrong. Under the present system only the same quantity is averaged, though no limit is made. Twenty minutes is allowed to each bather, and 5 pfennigs, just over one cent, charged for any excess of that time. The towels used are washed in the basement, where the heating apparatus is. On account of the cholera epidemic just before the opening of the baths, it is arranged to heat the water of the Elbe to boiling point, and then by mixing with city water and cooling, reduce the temperature to 112 degrees Fahrenheit, and 77 degrees Fahrenheit. The average attendance at St. Pauli during 1893, the opening year, was 147 per day; in 1894 there were 48,138 bathers, or an average of 132 per day. Provision is made for 450 bathers. The greatest attendance was on July 7th, 1894, when 597 people bathed. Among the bathers there are few workers, the attendance coming largely from the small tradesmen class.

**Gothen-  
burg,  
Sweden.**

The first public bath in Gothenburg dates from 1802. At present there are two public baths, the "Renströmska Badanstalten," opened in 1876, and the "Renströmska Badanstalten i Majorna" (Majorna is a suburb of Gothenburg), opened in 1892. Besides these, there are three river baths in the Göta Elf, open to the public from May to September. All these establishments are maintained partly from city appropriations and partly from the funds belonging to the city, named "Renströmska fonden" after their founder, Sven Renstrom, a merchant.

The cost of the establishments was: For the Renströmska Badanstalten, \$93,808.33; for the open air baths, about \$800 each; for the baths at Majorna, \$27,033.13, divided as follows:

Building .....	\$15,716 37
Boilers, heating and ventilating apparatus ....	4,589 92
Bathing fixtures .....	4,015 51
Furniture .....	1,288 37
Plans and drawings .....	464 44
Insurance .....	68 68
Superintendence .....	482 40
Judicial survey .....	81 74
Gas and coke .....	139 16
Water .....	88 71
Sundries .....	97 83
Total .....	\$27,033 13

The open air baths are free. The receipts at the other baths for the last few years were as follows:

## RENSTROMSKA BADANSTALTEN.

Class of Baths.	1895	1894	1893	1892
First Class .....	\$7,382 19	\$7,382 03	\$7,524 61	\$7,562 75
Second Class .....	4,483 49	4,285 10	4,471 02	4,511 06
Third Class .....	3,029 41	3,045 69	2,885 15	3,083 08
Totals .....	\$14,895 09	\$14,712 82	\$14,880 78	\$15,156 89

## RENSTROMSKA BADANSTALTEN I MAJORNA.

Class of Baths.	1894	1893
Slipper Baths:—		
First Class .....	\$194 37	\$176 68
Second Class .....	418 08	355 64
Third Class .....	437 71	466 18
Russian Baths:—		
Second Class .....	198 10	148 20
Third Class .....	199 73	164 82
Shower Baths .....	38 46	9 41
Baths for School Children:—		
At 10 öre (2½ cents) .....	17 04	21 79
At 5 öre .....	68 85	67 90
Other baths .....	172 89	192 61
Total receipts .....	\$1,745 23	\$1,603 23

The following are the operating expenses for 1894 at the Renströmska Badanstalten:

Salaries .....	\$4,451 08
Fuel .....	2,302 11
Water .....	2,220 79
Lighting .....	818 84
Washing of towels, etc. ....	1,169 82
Repairs and maintenance .....	2,339 88
Printing and stationery .....	52 94
Soap .....	47 46
Telephone .....	46 01
Cleaning and sweeping .....	98 99
Medical attendance and medicine .....	86 59
Insurance and taxes .....	121 52
Written off for depreciation of furniture and linen .....	295 00
Sundries .....	69 95
Total .....	\$14,120 98

At Majorna for 1894 the operating expenses were \$1,926.51, while the cost of operating the river baths for the same period was \$411.82.

Following is a table showing the average income and average operating expenses per bath in cents:

Year	Average income per paid bath	Average Operating Expenses per bath given.						
		Salaries	Fuel	Water	Light	Washing of Linen	Repairs & Maint'ce	Total
	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.
1894 ..	13.23	4.01	2.07	2.00	.74	1.05	2.84	12.71
1893 ..	13.41	3.89	1.96	1.81	1.01	1.08	3.29	13.04
1892 ..	13.23	3.78	1.98	1.76	.65	1.07	3.22	12.46
1891 ..	13.36	3.61	2.06	1.76	.53	1.12	2.57	11.65

No account is kept of the number visiting the open air baths, but it is estimated that they are used by at least 80,000 people in the course of the season. Every person taking an ordinary warm bath is permitted to take with him a child under eight years of age, without extra admission, and two children under the age of twelve may use the same bath upon paying the usual fee. The baths taken at the two bathing establishments were as follows:

#### RENSTROMSKA BADANSTALTEN.

	1895.			1894.			1893.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
<b>First Class:—</b>									
Roman Baths..	1,486	80	1,566	1,766	92	1,858	1,837	74	1,911
Turkish Baths.	1,898	118	2,016	1,291	49	1,340	1,409	23	1,432
Sitz Baths ...	3,829	351	4,180	2,969	222	3,191	2,416	209	2,625
Slipper Baths..	15,224	6,327	21,551	15,587	6,225	21,812	16,165	6,587	22,752
Vapor Baths ..	567	77	644	552	40	592	679	46	725
Shower Baths.	105	....	105	96	....	96	92	....	92
Baths served at home ....	114	90	204	137	124	261	106	59	165
Total first class ....	23,223	7,043	30,266	22,398	6,752	29,150	22,704	6,998	29,702
<b>Second Class:—</b>									
Russian, shower and sitz baths ...	16,671	1,247	17,918	16,674	1,003	17,677	17,561	900	18,461
Slipper Baths..	10,615	9,217	19,832	10,196	8,602	18,798	11,162	8,640	19,802
Vapor Baths ..	475	71	546	553	33	586	496	45	541
Shower Baths.	136	....	136	103	....	103	147	....	147
Total second class .....	27,897	10,535	38,432	27,526	9,638	37,164	29,366	9,585	38,951
<b>Third Class:—</b>									
Russian Baths	13,691	2,533	16,224	13,471	2,494	15,965	12,810	2,344	15,154
Slipper Baths..	12,470	14,000	26,470	11,928	14,645	26,573	11,757	13,894	25,651
Vapor Baths ..	321	110	431	455	100	555	443	93	536
Free Baths ....	227	1,355	1,582	309	1,309	1,618	443	1,390	1,833
Total third class .....	26,709	17,998	44,707	26,163	18,548	44,711	25,453	17,721	43,174
<b>Grand total ....</b>	<b>77,829</b>	<b>35,576</b>	<b>113,405</b>	<b>76,087</b>	<b>34,938</b>	<b>111,025</b>	<b>77,523</b>	<b>34,304</b>	<b>111,827</b>

## RENSTROMSKA BADANSTALTEN I MAJORNA.

	1894	1893
Slipper baths, first class .....	967	879
Slipper baths, second class .....	3,120	2,654
Slipper baths, third class .....	6,533	6,958
Russian baths, second class .....	2,112	1,580
Russian baths, third class .....	2,981	2,460
Shower baths .....	574	234
Baths for School Children:—		
At 10 öre .....	636	813
At 5 öre .....	5,138	5,067
Various baths .....	1,648	1,844
Totals .....	23,709	22,489

The open air baths are managed by the city financial board, while each of the other public baths is managed by a special committee.

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE ADMINISTRATION OF EUROPEAN BATHS.

The first public baths in England were the St. George's Pierhead Baths, Liverpool, opened in 1828. In 1849 the City of Liverpool erected two new establishments. In September, 1844, the Lord Mayor of London convened a meeting for the formation of an "Association for Promoting Cleanliness Among the People," which resulted in the establishment of one of the first baths and washhouses in London. The success of these baths was so great that a larger set was opened in Whitechapel, but the hopes raised by the first success were not sustained, and the second establishment fell into decay until taken over by the Vestry of Whitechapel. In 1846 a private association opened baths in George Street, Euston Square, the water being supplied gratuitously by the New River Company. In addition to its bathing and washing conveniences, there was a department "for cleansing, purifying and disinfecting the dwellings of the poor," which effected much good; but the New River Company abolishing their reservoir, the establishment had to be closed. It had become evident that public baths and washhouses would not flourish under semi-philanthropic or private enterprise. In 1835 a bill to promote public baths was introduced into the House of Commons, but failed, owing to the opposition to it. In 1846, on June 8th, the Bishop of London presented five petitions on the subject to the House of Lords, praying for increased facilities for cleanliness available for the masses, and a bill was introduced on June 19th, which received the Royal assent on August 26th, 1846.

The Act provided for the erection and maintenance by cities and boroughs of bathing establishments, containing hot and cold slipper baths, with the necessary arrangements for heating, lighting, etc. Less than a year afterwards an amendment was passed authorizing the provision of warm and cold shower baths and vapor baths, and also of public washhouses. In 1878 the Act was further amended to make room for swimming baths, now the most popular feature of many establishments. The Turkish bath was not well known at the time of the passing of the original act, or it is possible it would have been substituted for the vapor bath, as affording the most thoroughly cleansing bath possible. When the Paddington public baths and washhouses

Promotion  
of  
Cleanli-  
ness.

Vapor  
Baths.



were about to be erected in 1874, application was made to the Local Government Board to ascertain the legality or otherwise of including the Turkish bath in the proposed establishment, and the reply of the Board was to the effect that, although the statutes contained no definition of baths, "the schedule to the statutes 10 and 11 Vict. cap. 61, recognizes a vapor bath, and the Board therefore apprehends that there would be no legal objection to the establishment of a Turkish bath." Turkish baths are part of the establishments at Birmingham, Bradford and Worthing.

When a city or town wishes to establish public baths, a committee of the Town Council is appointed to take charge of the matter. In Bootle this committee is the Parks and Baths Committee, in Bradford the Tramway, Baths and Team Labor Committee, in Burnley it was formerly the Baths, Cemetery and Recreation Grounds Committee, and is now the Town Hall, Baths and Cemetery Committee. The Committee is, of course, responsible to the Council and refers to the Council on all matters of importance. In London, the government of which is different to that of other cities, there is another method. The Vestries, a kind of district municipal council, appointed a small commission, usually consisting of seven, but sometimes of five or six commissioners, who had more power than a committee, and were only obliged to refer to the Vestry when they wanted to borrow money. Since 1894 this system has been abolished, and the London Vestries, like the provincial Town Councils, manage their baths through a committee.

**Borrow  
Money.**

Before proceeding to erect baths, the consent of the Local Government Board to the expenditure must first be obtained. The initial expenses are met by a loan payable in a period of from ten to fifty years, according to the size of the loan, the purpose for which the expenditure is to be made and the rateable value of the parish. Thus the Islington Commissioners procured the following loans for their baths, all at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., up to March 31st, 1895:

Date of Mortgage.	Per'd of Loan	Original Amount of Loan.	Of whom borrowed.	For what purpose.
1891 Jan. 16 ..	yrs. 50	£8,000	Prudential Assurance Co.	Purchase of Site, Caledonian Road.
May 12 ..	30	5,000	Prudential Assurance Co.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Caledonian Road.
June 19 ..	50	6,000	London County Council.	Purchase of Site, Hornsey Road.

Date of Mortgage.	Per'd of Loan	Original amount of Loan.	Of whom borrowed.	For what purpose.
1891				
Nov. 6 ..	30	£5,000	Prudential Assurance Co.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Hornsey Road.
Dec. 7 ...	30	5,000	London County Council.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Hornsey Road.
1892				
March 18..	30	3,000	Prudential Assurance Co.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Caledonian Road.
March 30..	30	5,000	London County Council.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Hornsey Road.
May 20 ...	30	5,000	London County Council.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Hornsey Road.
June 3 ...	10	4,000	Prudential Assurance Co.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Caledonian Road.
June 16 ..	30	3,500	London County Council.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Hornsey Road.
Nov. 23 ..	15	5,500	London County Council.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Hornsey Road.
1893				
April 1 ..	30	9,600	London County Council.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Hornsey Road and Caledonian Road.
April 1 ..	10	1,800	London County Council.	Erection of Baths and Washhouses, Hornsey Road.
Dec. 8 ...	25	11,250	London County Council.	Purchase of Site and Erection of Baths, etc., Tibberton Square.
1894				
May 11 ..	25	10,000	London County Council.	Purchase of Site and Erection of Baths, etc., Tibberton Square.
Oct. 18 ..	25	10,000	London County Council.	Purchase of Site and Erection of Baths, etc., Tibberton Square.
Total ....		£97,650		

Of this sum £5467 10s. 1d. of the principal had been repaid up to March 31st, 1895, and also interest to the amount of £6876 19s. 1d. (less income tax). This leaves a capital sum outstanding of £92,182 9s. 11d.

For the year ending March 31st, 1895, the payments of principal and interest were as follows:

	Repayment of Loan.			Interest.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Caledonian Road .....	747	0	9	869	5	4
Hornsey Road .....	1,548	6	8	1,306	19	5
Tibberton Square .....	450	0	0	711	10	6
Total .....	£2,745	7	5	£2,887	15	3

The income from the baths usually hardly meets working expenses, although occasionally there is a slight surplus. Any deficit, and the amount required to meet payments of principal and interest, comes out of the rates. As the loans are paid off the tax becomes less until, when all the loans are paid off, a very small annual payment is necessary to cover the working expenses. In the Parish of St. James, Westminster, which erected baths in 1851, the total charge on the rates, for site, erection of buildings and maintenance since erection, has only been £26,621. This, spread over a period of forty-five years, amounts to £592 or \$2,890 per annum; and for this well-appointed cleansing baths and washhouses have been maintained, and a swimming bath has lately been opened.

**Slight  
Surplus.**

The rules and regulations at the baths differ very little, and those of the St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster, baths may be taken as an example of many others:

*First Class Private Baths.*

Warm or cold Baths ..... 6d.

**Rules and Regulations.**

Attention is directed to the printed Bye-Laws.

Each bather is provided with a bath of the desired temperature, with the use of two clean towels.

Half an hour is allowed to each bather from the time of entering and leaving the bathroom. Bathers will please ring the bell should they require the attendant.

The admixture of any chemical except soap with the water in the bath is strictly prohibited.

If soap and extra towels are required they can be obtained at the pay office at a charge of 1d. each article. (Please see that you get a ticket for same.) The attendants are not allowed to supply soap or extra towels.

Please avoid talking in the bathroom, as it distracts the attention of the attendant, and when quitting the bathroom, leave the door open, the water in the bath, and the towels on the seat.

Bathers unable to wait their turn may have their tickets endorsed by the money-taker for use another day, but no money can be returned, nor will the ticket be available for another day except so endorsed.

Water closets are provided.

No smoking or drinking spirituous or malt liquors allowed in the building.

Dogs are not allowed within the building.

No employe is allowed to take any gratuity whatever, on pain of dismissal.

No disorderly conduct, indecent or offensive language allowed in the building.

Do not remain in the bath whilst hot water is being supplied.

Bathers committing wilful damage, interfering with the comfort of another or interrupting any of the servants in their duty, will be proceeded against under the bye-laws for the full penalty of 40s.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(Signed) CHARLES NEWMAN,  
Superintendent.

*Second Class Private Baths.*

Warm Bath ..... 2d.

Cold ..... 1d.

Rules and Regulations.

Attention is directed to the printed Bye-Laws.

Each bather is provided with a bath of the desired temperature, with use of one clean towel. (Extra towels can be had if desired by purchasing an extra towel ticket at the pay office.)

Half an hour is allowed to each bather from the time of entering and leaving the bathroom.

No smoking or drinking spirituous or malt liquors is allowed in the building.

The admixture of any chemical or other preparation except soap with the water in the bath is strictly prohibited. Soap and extra towels can only be obtained at the pay office, at a charge of 1d. each article. (Please see that you get a ticket for the same.) The attendants are not allowed to supply soap or extra towels.

Bathers are requested to decide as to the temperature of water they require before the attendant leaves the bath, as the calling out of numbers is likely to cause confusion. To avoid talking in the bathroom, as it distracts the attention of the attendant, and when quitting the bathroom to leave the door open, the water in the bath and the towels on the seat.

Bathers unable to await their turn may have their tickets endorsed by the money-taker for use another day, but no money can be returned, nor will the ticket be available for another day except so endorsed.



Water closets are provided.

Dogs are not admitted within the building.

No person employed in the establishment is allowed to take any gratuity whatever, on pain of dismissal.

Bathers are particularly asked not to stand on the towels.

Bathers committing wilful damage, or interfering with the comfort of another, or interrupting any of the servants in their duty, will be proceeded against under the bye-laws for the full penalty of 40s.

No disorderly conduct, indecent or offensive language allowed in the building.

By Order of the Commissioners,

(Signed) CHARLES NEWMAN,

Superintendent.

### *Rules and Regulations for Bathers.*

#### Swimming Baths.

Half an hour only is allowed to each bather.

No bad language or whistling allowed.

Do not spit in the water.

No smoking or drinking intoxicating liquors allowed.

Leave the building directly you are dressed.

Return your towels and hired drawers to the bath attendant on leaving.

Diving from the boxes is strictly forbidden.

Soap must not be used in the swimming bath.

Any person who shall wilfully offend against the foregoing rules and regulations will be immediately expelled, refused admittance on a future occasion, and proceeded against for the full penalty of 40s.

The Commissioners are not responsible for articles lost by bathers in the establishment.

By Order of the Commissioners.

### *Notice to Competitors.*

#### Swimming Baths.

1. Do not fail to wear bathing Drawers under your costumes.
2. Do not enter the water between the different heats or events.
3. Do not interfere with the valves, bath fittings or furniture.



4. Do not shout or make unnecessary noises, as it distracts the attention of the bath attendant.

5. Do not stand or loiter round the sides of the bath before the heat or event you are to compete, but walk in the dressing-room until notified.

6. Do not stand or loiter round the sides of the bath after you have competed, but proceed to your dressing-room, unless otherwise requested.

(Signed) CHARLES NEWMAN,  
Superintendent.

*Swimming.*

Certificate of Proficiency.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that .....  
aged ..... residing at ..... has  
acquired the art of Swimming, under my tuition, and is proficient  
in .....  
Westminster Baths, London, S. W.  
.....189 .

*Instructions for the Proper Use of the Water Chute.*

1. Get yourself into position by the use of the ropes.
2. Do not hold the sides of the chute while sliding.
3. Keep the head well down and the body stiff.
4. Do not run down the chute.
5. Not more than two persons must use the chute at one time.
6. Do not crawl up the chute.

*Notice to Club, School and Special Ticket Holders.*

All club and school tickets must have the name of the club or school issuing the same, written or stamped across the face of such tickets before presentation at the pay office, and they, and also special book tickets, must be shown to the money-taker, who will, previous to the issuing of towels, stamp such tickets with the official date stamp.

Club and school tickets are not transferable, and will only be accepted from *bona fide* members of the clubs and scholars of schools having permission to use them; any other person presenting them will not be admitted, and the club or school issuing the same will not be allowed further concession.

Members of clubs must, if required, produce their cards of membership before using the swimming baths.

All school bathers must be in charge of a master or mistress, and under proper control.

Members of clubs are respectfully asked to assist the management by leaving the baths directly after practice, in order to allow others to bathe.

Polo practice not allowed without permission of the Superintendent.

By Order.

*How to Save Life from Drowning in a Bath.*

Newman's Method.

Approach the person (if possible) from behind, grasp by or near the waist, the position of the arms, together with the weight of the drowning person, will cause you to sink. Immediately your feet touch the bottom of the bath, you will find that though you are under water, the drowning person will not only be on or above the surface, but that you will be able to walk to the side of the bath and deposit your burden with comparative ease and safety.

This method only applies where a person has to be rescued in the deep end of the bath, and may be successfully accomplished by a non-swimmer.

*To Restore the Apparently Drowned.*

Mode of Procedure.

Place the patient on the side of the bath, face downwards, and,

1. Loosen the bathing drawers at the waist.
2. Stand astride the patient with your face towards the head, lock your fingers together under the abdomen and raise the body as high as possible without lifting the head or toes from the ground, at the same time jerking the body of the patient in order to remove mucus and water from the windpipe.
3. Turn the patient on his back and slightly raise the upper portion of the body by placing something under the shoulder blades; cleanse the mouth and nostrils, open the mouth, draw forth the tongue and secure it by an elastic band or string under the patient's chin.
4. Proceed to draw the air into the lungs by grasping the patient's arms above the elbows and draw them up gently until they meet above the head, bring them down again and press firmly against the sides of the chest whilst an attendant is, at the same time, gently pressing the abdomen; repeat these actions alter-

nately until there is some perceivable effort by the patient to breathe, remembering that it may be an hour or more before your efforts prove successful. During these operations the patient's hands and legs may be rubbed briskly, and smelling salts placed to the nostrils.

5. When the patient commences to breathe, induce circulation and warmth by rubbing the body with warm cloths or briskly with your hands. Hot water bottles may also be put to the soles of the feet.

6. When the patient can swallow, give hot coffee, milk or brandy.

#### Provincial Baths.

As an illustration of the by-laws governing provincial baths, those of Birmingham are annexed, having been copied by many other cities. In some places, the penalty attached to violation of the rules is higher; in Coventry, for instance, it is £5 (\$25).

"2. Every person resorting to the public baths shall, before being admitted to any bath or bathroom, obtain, by payment, from the authorized money-taker, a ticket whereon shall be stated, in addition to such other particulars as the Town Council may from time to time direct, the class or description of bath to which such person shall be entitled to be admitted, and every person shall, on being admitted to use any bath, deliver to the bath attendant, or other servant employed thereat, such ticket of admission as shall have been issued by the authorized money-taker.

"3. Every bather in the swimming and plunging baths shall wear bathing drawers, costume, or bathing dress, and such drawers, costume, or dress must be made of material that will not discolor the water.

"4. No bath attendant, officer, or servant employed at the public baths, other than a duly authorized money-taker, shall receive from any person resorting thereto any payment for the hire or use of any articles, or for any purpose whatsoever, without the knowledge and consent of the superintendent.

"5. A person resorting to the public baths shall not, by forcible or improper means, seek admission to any bathroom or compartment which shall be occupied by any person using a separate bath.

"6. A person resorting to the public baths shall not, by forcible or improper means, seek admission to any swimming bath at any time when such swimming bath or the dressing-rooms, closets,

#### Closets and Boxes.

boxes, or compartments attached thereto shall be occupied by the full number of persons authorized to use, at one and the same time, such swimming bath, or dressing-rooms, closets, boxes or compartments.

"7. A person resorting to the public baths shall not, by forcible or improper means, seek admission to any bathroom or dressing-room before any person who, by priority of payment, shall be entitled to prior admission to such bath, but each person shall be admitted consecutively in the order indicated by the number on the tickets of admission.

**Waiting.**

"8. A person resorting to the public baths shall not use any bath of a higher class or description than that of the bath for which he shall have obtained a ticket of admission.

"9. Every person resorting to the public baths shall, while waiting on the premises for admission to any bath or bathroom, remain only in such portion of the premises as shall be set apart as a waiting-room for intending bathers, and no person shall be admitted to any other part of the establishment, excepting to that for which he shall have obtained a ticket.

"10. A person resorting to the public baths shall not, after using any bath or quitting any bathroom, dressing-room or compartment, loiter or remain, without reasonable excuse, in any passage leading to or from any bath or bathroom.

"11. A person resorting to the public baths shall not, at any time after being admitted at any swimming bath, or while occupying any dressing-room, closet, box, or compartment attached thereto, enter or seek admission to any other dressing-room, closet, box or compartment, when occupied by any person, without the consent of such person, or otherwise knowingly intrude upon or interfere with the privacy of any other person using such swimming bath or occupying any dressing-room, closet, box or compartment attached thereto.

"12. A person resorting to the public baths shall not, at any time after being admitted to or while occupying any bathroom or compartment containing a separate bath, enter or seek admission from such bathroom or compartment when occupied by any person, without the consent of such person, or otherwise knowingly intrude upon, or interfere with the privacy of any person occupying any adjoining bathroom or compartment.

**Man or  
Boy.**

"13. A man or boy above eight years old resorting to the public baths shall not enter or use any bath which shall be appointed or



appropriated for the use of any woman, or girl, or child under eight years old.

"14. A woman or girl, or child under eight years old resorting to the public baths shall not enter or use any bath which shall be appointed or appropriated for the use of any man or boy above eight years old.

"15. A person shall not knowingly occupy any private bathroom or any dressing room in the swimming or plunge bath for a longer period than thirty minutes, nor any dressing-room in the Turkish bath department for a longer period than two hours, unless such person shall, upon demand being made by the superintendent (or by the bath attendant acting upon his instructions), pay to such superintendent a sum equal to the amount previously paid by such person as a charge for admission to such bathroom or swimming bath.

"16. Every person resorting to the public baths shall, at all times, exercise reasonable and proper care in the use of any bath or bathroom, dressing-room, closet, box or compartment.

"17. A person resorting to the public baths shall not, at any time, carelessly or negligently break, or injure, or improperly interfere with the due and efficient action of any lock, cock, valve pipe, work, or engine or machinery in connection with any bath, or carelessly or negligently injure any furniture, fittings, or conveniences of any bath, bathroom, dressing-room, closet, box or compartment.

"18. A person resorting to the public baths shall not, at any time, carelessly or negligently injure or destroy any towel or other linen, or other article supplied for his use.

"19. A person resorting to the public baths, and any officer or servant or other person employed thereat, shall not, at any time, introduce into the building any spirituous or intoxicating liquors, or smoke or drink any malt liquor therein.

"20. A person resorting to the public baths shall not at any time, while being on the premises, use any indecent and offensive language, or behave in an indecent and offensive manner.

"21. Any person resorting to the public baths shall not at any time, while being upon the premises, by any disorderly or improper conduct, disturb or interrupt any other person in the proper use of any bath, bathroom, dressing-room, closet, box or compartment, or any officer, servant, or person appointed or employed by the Town Council, in the proper execution of his duty.

"22. A person resorting to the public baths shall not cause or allow any dog belonging to such person or under his control, to

**Turkish  
Bath.**

**Malt  
Liquor.**



enter or remain in any bath, bathroom, dressing-room, closet, box or compartment, or in any passage leading to or from any bath or bathroom.

"23. A person resorting to the public baths shall not at any time, while being in any swimming bath, use any soap or other substance or preparation whereby the water in such swimming bath may be rendered turbid or unfit for the proper use of bathers.

"24. A person resorting to the public baths shall not wilfully and improperly foul or pollute the water in any separate bath or in any swimming bath, or wilfully or improperly soil or defile any towel, bathing drawers, or bathing dress supplied for his use, or any bathroom, dressing-room, closet, box or compartment, or any furniture or article therein.

"25. A person resorting to the public baths shall not at any time, while suffering from any cutaneous, infectious or contagious disease, enter or use any swimming bath or any separate bath.

"26. A person resorting to the public baths, and any officer or servant employed thereat, finding any article which may have been left in any bathroom, or dressing-room, or in any other part of the establishment, shall, immediately after finding such article, deliver the same to the superintendent (or other person authorized to receive such articles), who shall thereupon register a description of the same and all particulars relating thereto in the book kept for that purpose, and any person losing such article shall, upon giving satisfactory proof thereof, receive such article from the superintendent (or other person authorized to receive such articles) upon entering his or her name in the book referred to.

#### Penalties.

"27. Every person resorting to the public baths who shall offend against any of the foregoing by-laws shall be liable for every offence to a penalty of forty shillings (\$10).

"Provided, nevertheless, that the justices before whom any complaint may be made or any proceedings may be taken in respect of any such offence may, if they think fit, adjudge the payment, as a penalty, of any sum less than the full amount of the penalty imposed by this by-law.

(Signed) E. O. SMITH,

"Town Clerk."

The Baths and Washhouses Act stipulates that the number of baths for the laboring classes in public baths and washhouses shall not be less than twice the number of baths

**Cold  
Bath  
Cheaper.**

of any higher class if but one, or of all the baths of any higher classes, if more than one, in the same building. In practice this is usually, but not always, adhered to. There are generally two classes of baths; the first-class price for both slipper and swimming baths is most commonly 6d. Second-class private baths are 3d. and 2d. in different establishments. A cold bath is usually cheaper. For a second-class swimming bath also, 3d. or 2d. is charged; the latter charge is usually where a private dressing-room is not provided. Extra charge is made at the baths for the loan of bathing costumes or caps, soap, etc. A special rate is often made for school children and clubs. The following are the forms of application for these rates in use at the Westminster baths:

*Application for Special Ticket Book.  
Club.*

Questions.	Answers to be given by Secretary of Club.
Name of Club. ....	
Headquarters .....	
Number of members .....	
Name and address of Secretary .....	
Entrance fee and sub- scription .....	
First or second class .....	

The club must provide a rubber or some suitable stamp, and stamp across on the face of each ticket the name of the club, and the secretary must sign his name below such stamp mark.

Attendance by arrangement with superintendent. No allowance made for unused tickets.

Club tickets are not transferable, and will not be available for use unless the foregoing rules are complied with.

Signature of Secretary .....

(Signed) CHARLES NEWMAN,  
Superintendent.

*School.*

Questions.	Answers to be given by Head Master.
Name of school .....	
Where situated .....	



*From Municipality and County, Buffalo, N. Y.*

Laundry hung up to dry in the house of a family living in one room. The Gilder Committee of 1894 state that out of 255,033 people coming within the scope of their inquiry, only 306 had access to bath-rooms in houses where they lived.



*From Municipality and County, Buffalo, N. Y.*

The household effects of a family living in one room. A Public Laundry would remove the congestion, by enabling the family in question to do the laundry work outside of the so-called home.



Name of Head Master or

Mistress .....

Number of books required .....

First or second class .....

The Head Master or Head Mistress must provide a rubber or some stamp and stamp across the face of each ticket the name of the school and sign his or her name below such stamp mark.

Attendance by arrangement with superintendent. No allowance made for unused tickets.

Boys must be in charge of a Master and under proper control.

Tickets will not be available for use unless the foregoing rules are complied with.

Signature of Head Master .....

(Signed) WARRINGTON ROGERS, Clerk,  
CHARLES NEWMAN, Superintendent.

Careful accounts are kept, and well tabulated, so that each year's report gives very full information as to the number using the baths, receipts and expenses.

German baths, though efficiently controlled by the municipality, are often, as at Hamburg, managed by a private society, which is allowed only a fixed rate of interest, any surplus going to the benefit of the city. Where, as at Berlin and Chemnitz, the city operates its own baths, they are under the management of a committee of the city council.

At Gothenburg the river baths are managed by the city financial board, the two other bathing establishments by special committees under the city's control.



## CHAPTER X.

### PUBLIC LAUNDRIES.

The Baths Commissioners are also the authority for the public washhouse, usually built in connection with the baths themselves, though sometimes, as in Liverpool, it may occupy a separate building.

One of the newest and best appointed washhouses in London is that at the Hornsey Road, Islington, baths. Every effort is made here to discourage the professional washerwoman, the charge being one penny the first hour, three halfpence the second, and 2d. every succeeding hour. If mangling only is done, a charge of 6d. an hour is made, the high rate being to prevent the underselling of the poorer women who eke out a living by taking in mangling. The dirty linen is usually brought in perambulators or rolled up in large bundles. Each woman receives from the lady clerk a ticket, on which her name and the time of starting are set down. This ticket is handed by the visitor to one of the female attendants within the laundry, who in her turn fastens it upon one of the drying horses, the number on which corresponds with the number on the washing-tub the woman is entitled to use. There are fifty washing tubs, so that number of people can carry on their work at the same time. The whole accommodation is often taken up, and sometimes as many as thirty women are waiting outside for vacancies, a circumstance which would seem sufficient to justify the Commissioners in their scheme for extending the laundry. At the tub the washer is supplied with foot-board, pail, copper stick, washing board, and has three taps under her command for the supply of hot and cold water and steam. From the tub the washer takes her linen to the steam wringer, which, making about 800 revolutions to the minute, draws out the water in a remarkably short space of time. After a few minutes in the wringer the clothes are then removed to the drying horse, heated by steam pipes from below, and from the drying horse they are carried to an adjoining room, where the mangling and ironing complete the work. The English mangle is a machine similar to the hand wringer, but used for pressing clothes after drying. The rollers are most commonly of wood, and the machine is turned by hand, or, in these large laundries, by steam. The polish given to the clothes saves the

Mangling.

Steam  
Wringer.

necessity of ironing sheets, pillow slips, towels, or, indeed, any linen that is not shirred or pleated. When the work is finished the woman takes her ticket to the lady clerk at the door, who makes up the time and charges the required amount. Besides the public laundry Hornsey Road has an establishment laundry in the basement, and here sometimes 5,000 towels are washed in a single day.

The Frederick Street baths and washhouse, opened in 1842 in Liverpool, was the first establishment of the kind in Great Britain. When reconstructed in 1854 it was made a washhouse only, other baths having been provided. Three other baths in Liverpool contain washhouse accommodation. At the Lodge Lane washhouse great improvements were made in 1894-5 in the drying apparatus. Formerly the clothing was put into six chambers, each sub-divided so as to give a certain amount of space to each washer, and left to bake dry in a temperature of 180 degrees for two hours. The new system is drying by hot air in motion, so that a natural drying is obtained and the clothing is in no way damaged. The chambers are now arranged so that each person's clothing is under lock and key, thus obviating the thefts so common under the old system. It is probably owing to these alterations that the washhouse lost a great deal of its custom, many of the regular washers having bought their own washing requisites and not being then willing to go back. The decrease in the Burroughs Garden establishment was attributed to the demolition of unsanitary property in the neighborhood, and the consequent removal of many of the washers.

**New  
System.**

Edinburgh washhouse authorities, having regard to the fact that a mother cannot leave young children at home alone, and often has no one to look after them while she comes to the public washhouse, graciously permit each washer to bring two children, but on the condition that they shall not be allowed access to the engine room. Usually no children are allowed. Edinburgh also permits to its washers the use of private hot and cold baths, with showers, on production of the deposit ticket, at the rate of 2d. an hour or part of an hour. Washers have to deposit one shilling on entering, and must leave the stall and appliances used by them clean and ready for immediate use.

The prices do not vary much and are generally less for the first two than for subsequent hours, as it is reckoned that most of the women will get through their private washing in that time. In spite of this, the average time worked is three and one-half hours at St. James, Westminster, baths. The

**Prices.**

scale of charges at St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster, is as follows:

PUBLIC BATHS AND WASHHOUSES.  
SCALE OF CHARGES.  
LAUNDRY AND WASHHOUSE DEPARTMENT.

	s. d.		s. d.
1 hour .....	0 1½	7 hours .....	1 1
2 hours .....	0 3	7½ hours .....	1 2
2½ hours .....	0 4	8 hours .....	1 3
3 hours .....	0 4½	8½ hours .....	1 4
3½ hours .....	0 6	9 hours .....	1 5
4 hours .....	0 7	9½ hours .....	1 6
4½ hours .....	0 8	10 hours .....	1 7
5 hours .....	0 9	10½ hours .....	1 8
5½ hours .....	0 10	11 hours .....	1 9
6 hours .....	0 11	11½ hours .....	1 10
6½ hours .....	1 0	12 hours .....	1 11

N. B.—Persons exceeding any of the above periods more than five minutes will be charged the full hour or half-hour, as the case may be.

At the Liverpool washhouses the charges for washing and drying (including use of dolly tub and maiden) are: One hour only, one penny per hour; if for two or more hours together in one day, then for every hour, including the first, three half-pence per hour.

Following are the rules at the Westminster washhouse. It will be noticed that it has been found necessary to exact 3d. caution money before allowing a washer to enter, a sufficient evidence that the washhouse is used by a poor class of people.

*Rules and Regulations for Washers.*  
Which Will Be Strictly Enforced.

1. The washhouses are open from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. (Sundays and bank holidays excepted), and all washers are requested to leave the building in a proper and orderly manner immediately at the hour of closing.

2. The charges for the use of separate washing compartment, steam drying horse, mangle, tables and irons, are as under:

One hour, 1½d.

Three hours, 4½d.

Two hours, 3d.

Three and a half hours, 6d.

Two and a half hours, 4d.

And for every succeeding half-hour, 1d., and should the hour or half-hour be exceeded by more than five minutes, it will be counted for as a half-hour.

3. Every washer before entering the washhouse shall procure admission tickets at the pay office, her name and time of entrance will be written thereon by the money-taker; one of such tickets must be handed to the attendant, who will admit the bearer in the order of entrance to an unoccupied compartment. The other ticket the washer must retain for production to the money-taker upon leaving, in order that the proper charge may be made.

**Tickets.**

4. See that the correct time is put on your ticket at the time of entrance, as no alteration can afterwards be made.

5. Your ticket must not be placed upon the drying horse until your clothes are ready to be dried, and must not remain on the horse after the clothes are dry.

6. One drying horse only is allowed to the use of each washer, and if it is found that a drying horse is being used without having previously obtained a ticket for same, or that a washer is using another's ticket, the clothes of the person so using the same will be removed from the drying horse and detained until another ticket has been obtained from the pay office.

**Drying  
Horse.**

7. The time occupied from entering until leaving, will have to be strictly paid for; washers should, therefore, be careful to make the best use of their time.

8. Washers, upon the completion of their work, must take their tickets to the attendant, who will enter upon the ticket the time occupied by the washers; the money-taker will then make the charge and receive payment, without which the clothes will be detained.

9. Starch is only to be made and used in the washhouse, where tables, etc., are provided for the purpose.

10. Washers must not unnecessarily slop the floors, or waste the water or steam. No wet clothes must be placed in the mangles. Washers must use the greatest caution in the use of the mangles and hydros, the engineer or the attendant will advise when necessary.

11. No food, bonnets, shawls, etc., are to be placed upon the tables; pegs and shelves are provided for the purpose.

**Food,  
Bonnets,  
Shawls.**

12. No washer is allowed to bring clothes into the building in a state of vermin, or those that have been used by persons suffering from infectious or contagious diseases, unless and until such articles have been disinfected and purified, to the satisfaction of the sanitary authorities.

13. Soap and soda may be obtained from the attendant at fixed prices.



14. No indecent, insulting or offensive language is allowed to be used, and any washer who shall wilfully obstruct or interfere with another, or who, by her actions, is likely to create a disturbance, will be immediately expelled, and will be refused admittance in the future.

15. No children will be admitted.

16. Washers must not offer gifts or money to the attendants, the receipt of which subjects them to dismissal.

17. Water-closets are in the building.

18. Washers are, for their own comfort, requested to see that these rules and regulations are strictly carried out, but if, upon report, it is found that any washer refuses, or has refused to do so, she will not be again admitted to the building.

By Order of the Commissioners.

Washers are strictly forbidden to bring spirituous or malt liquors into the building.

Washers must deposit 3d. with the money-taker previous to entering the washhouse.

*Washhouse Department Notice.*

You are not allowed the use of the mangle for more than one hour at a time.

You are not allowed to mangle and iron at one time.

**Mangle  
and Iron.**

You must finish in the washhouse before you begin to mangle and iron, and if you are found to be having the use of both departments at one time, or that you are using the ticket of another person, you will be charged accordingly, and, in default of payment, your clothes will be retained until payment is made for the time so occupied.

If you lose your ticket you are liable to be charged from the time the washhouse is opened, viz, 8 a. m.

By Order,

(Signed) C. NEWMAN,  
Superintendent.

Liverpool's regulations for its washhouses will serve as an example of provincial requirements. The caution money here is greater, 6d.

1. Each person taking a ticket thereby engages to perform and abide by all the following regulations, and is admitted only on such conditions.

2. The charge for each compartment and the conveniences for drying shall be one penny per hour; if for more than one hour, or



part of an hour, together in one day, then for every hour or part of an hour, including the first,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour.

**One  
Penny.**

3. Each person shall, on entering, make a deposit of 6d. and obtain a ticket stating the hour, and shall show the same to the washhouse attendant, who will point out the compartment to be used. On leaving each person shall apply to the attendant, who will state on the ticket the time the compartment has been occupied. His statement is conclusive.

4. Every person using a compartment for more than four hours must, on the expiration of the fourth hour, immediately obtain a new ticket. If two persons jointly wish to use the same compartment, each must obtain a ticket.

5. The money due for use and occupation of the compartment and conveniences, after deducting the deposit, shall be paid to the money-taker by each person before leaving.

6. The superintendent, washhouse attendant, or money-taker, or either of them may, on non-payment, detain all or such part of the clothes brought to be washed as they, or either of them, may think fit, and sell the same, and with the proceeds defray the charges for washing and expenses of sale, returning the surplus, if any, to the owner of the goods on demand.

7. Any person wilfully or negligently damaging the premises or any article thereon, shall be liable to be turned out, and shall be answerable for all such damage.

8. All clothes, etc., which may be left shall be delivered to the superintendent or washhouse attendant, who shall cause the same to be registered in a book for that purpose.

9. Any person bringing infected clothes into the washhouse will be prosecuted.

**Infected  
Clothes.**

10. No wet clothes will be permitted to be brought into the washhouse.

11. Every person is requested to be careful not to waste the water or steam, nor slop the floors.

12. Any person requiring assistance will receive it by calling out the number of her compartment.

13. No gratuities to be received by the superintendent, assistant or money-taker on pain of dismissal.

14. No children admitted.

15. Smoking in the establishment strictly forbidden.

16. The Corporation will not be responsible for any loss or damage caused by fires, etc., or for articles stolen.

17. The washhouse is open from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

18. No ticket issued after 5 p. m. No person allowed to continue washing after 6 p. m.

19. The washhouse is closed on Christmas Day, Good Friday, and on Bank Holidays.

20. Every person committing a nuisance, using profane language, interrupting the comfort of another, being intoxicated, or bringing into or causing to be brought into the washhouse any beer or liquor, or guilty of a breach of these regulations, or other misconduct, shall be liable to be turned out.

By Order,

(Signed) W. R. COURT,

Engineer and Chief Superintendent.

The money-taker not only has to keep strict account of the number of hours each washer has worked, but also of the soap and soda sold to her.

*Laundry Department.*

Money-Taker's Daily Account.

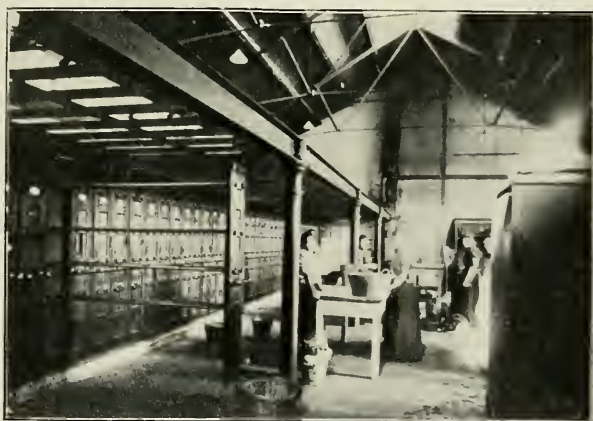
		£	s.	d.
No. of last ticket issued to-day .....				
No. of last ticket issued yesterday .....				
Total No. issued .....				
No. of washers .....				
No. of hours .....				
No. of half hours .....				
Lbs.				s. d.
... Soap .....				
... Soda .....				
Goods .....				
		£	s.	d.
Gold .....				
Silver .....				
Copper .....				
Total .....				
Date .....				

Money-Taker.

N. B.—This form must be accurately filled up by money-taker at the end of each day, and must correspond, in every particular, with the money-taker's daily account book.



Mangling Room, Hornsey Road Laundry (London). Charge for use of the laundry, first hour, 2c.; second hour, 3c.; each succeeding hour, 4c. 30,420 women used the laundry for the year ending March 31st. 1896.



Drying Room, Hornsey Road Public Laundry (London). It is calculated that one hour will suffice for the laundry work of a family of five people. New York has no public laundries.



The number of washers using the public washhouses at Liverpool for the years 1894-5, was:

Steele Street .....	44,402	46,104
Lodge Lane .....	27,849*	33,657
Burroughs Gardens .....	64,731	61,497
Frederick Street .....	16,390	15,117
Totals .....	153,372	156,375

\* Owing to alterations this was open for four and one-half weeks only.

Here is a sample of the tickets in use at the Westminster Baths.

(In books of 1000.)

No.....  
 Name .....  
 No. washing compartment .....  
 Began at                      o'clock.  
 Left off at                    o'clock.  
 ....Hours occupied ..... s. d.  
 Received by .....

Working women and wives of working men generally shun anything like publicity with regard to their domestic arrangements, and at first are reluctant to resort to public washhouses. But the conveniences and benefits soon become so apparent that the natural distrust gives way. To the women whose families occupy one, two or three small rooms in a tenement house these opportunities of doing the washing away from home, and thus preventing dirt and disorder in the house, come like blessings. The fact alone of the municipal laundry having overcome so completely the women's natural objections to mix among others in their domestic duties is an eloquent testimony of its usefulness and superiority. The advantages of cheap, comfortable and convenient washing are not the only benefits of municipal washhouses; a broader and kinder feeling springs up between the women by the occasional contact. They learn from each other; they give and take; they assist each other in many ways. The public washhouse might be said to be the beginning of communal life in strictly household matters. Just as much of the washing of working people is better done in a central, well-equipped building, supported conjointly by the people through the rates, instead of each separate little home being thrown into commotion by soap-suds and wet linen, so might other domestic arrangements, especially cooking, be placed upon a communal basis.

**Dirt and  
Disorder.**



## CHAPTER XI.

### PUBLIC COMFORT STATIONS.

Drinks  
with  
Meals.

One of the first surprises, and a very disagreeable one, of the man who has spent all his life in foreign cities, on coming to New York, is the entire absence of those conveniences he meets with at home every five or six blocks. He has not been accustomed to rely on saloons, for he is most likely in the habit of taking what he cares to drink with his meals. Lately the closing of saloons on Sunday has made the question a very important one in this city. The provision of public comfort stations may lead to the discouraging of the glass, taken often when not greatly desired, to recompense the saloon keeper. So far back as 1866 the need was realized. The Citizens' Association of New York organized a committee for sanitary inquiry, consisting of such well-known men as Hamilton Fish, John David Wolfe, Edward S. Jaffray, John Jacob Astor, August Belmont, and others, to inquire principally as to the high deathrate at that time. The doctors who reported to them as to the measures to be taken to remedy this, called attention to the necessity of public comfort stations, and said, "This scandalous want is regarded with concern by medical advisers; but considered simply as a cause of indecency and a public nuisance it should be obviated by suitable municipal care and provision, or by private enterprise, in preparing needed plans and structures." One of the Sanitary Inspectors employed at this time said: "Public urinals are also necessary in large cities. As constructed in Paris they disfigure the public thoroughfares and offend public decency; but such places might be built in the rear of small stores, thus removing every objectionable appearance."

News-  
papers.

In the same year the engineer of the Metropolitan Board of Health reported: "There has been considerable discussion as to the propriety of erecting, in different parts of the cities of this district, public urinals and water-closets. Of this necessity there is no doubt: the question is, where they shall be located and how they shall be constructed. Buildings could be erected in the few public squares with these conveniences, and of sufficient extent to afford some shelter in cases of sudden rain, with small withdrawing rooms for men and women, which should be under the charge of a keeper who might be paid sufficiently by the profits on the sale of newspapers."

An act was passed by the New York Legislature April 23, 1867, authorizing the Croton Aqueduct Department "to locate, erect, and establish public urinals within the boundaries of any street, avenue, public place or thoroughfare in said city, as it may from time to time deem advisable, and connect the same by drains or suitable pipes with any adjacent sewer." The department was also to provide for the maintenance and cleanliness of these places. A penalty of \$50, or three months' imprisonment, was laid down for any one convicted of defacing or defiling the constructions, the money to help pay the debt incurred in the erection of Croton Aqueduct.

In 1868 drawings were made for two public comfort stations, one at Astor Place, and the other at the corner of Broadway and Park Row, but as the appropriation was insufficient for both, only the first was proceeded with. This convenience for both men and women was opened for use in May, 1869. From its first opening it showed the imperious necessity for some such provision. In June 986 men visited it during the thirteen hours it was open on a single day. In August the men's division was enlarged by moving the partition toward the women's part, but without reducing the closet accommodation of the latter. With this enlargement the male frequenters continued to increase, so that at least 300,000 made use of the convenience up to the close of 1869. The greatest number of women using their division was twenty-five in a single day. The engineer of the Metropolitan Board of Health reported: "Of the necessities of such edifices both for men and women there can be no doubt, and of the appropriateness of this locality for one. But, as one where there should be many, it undertakes the relief of too large a population and district, and is too small. The attempt to keep the men's division clean by the once-a-day supervision of a woman, and by structural means guard against misuse, and the closing of the building evenings, have been mistakes. In the opinion of your Engineer, it has been clearly proved, by the experience of the urinals in Astor Place and City Hall Park, that these indispensable structures should have some competent person in charge while they are in use, as at our frequented hotels; that these accommodations should be of the best character, tending rather to bring up the sense of decency in the users than degrade it. In an educational point of view well-kept public urinals may serve as powerful assistants to the Board of Health, as examples of what can be done to render such structures comfortable and inoffensive; they will introduce among our

**Astor  
Place.**

lowest classes habits of cleanliness and self-respect, that will improve the condition of our tenement houses."

**City  
Parks.**

In 1870 the convenience in Astor Place was remodeled and placed under the care of a keeper. The Department of Parks during the year erected urinals in the city parks. The Board of Health thought that the health and comfort of the public demanded that the number should be largely increased, that they should be erected in all parts of the city, and be constructed for the accommodation of women and children as well as men. They believed there was no doubt as to the propriety of erecting water-closets and urinals and the only question was, where, and in what manner they should be erected and constructed. It was suggested that there was a special need for these conveniences along the river fronts, and that the matter should be laid before the Department of Docks.

In 1872 the convenience at Astor Place was transferred to the care of the Department of Public Works. Subsequently it was found to occupy too public a place; it fell into disuse and was removed.

In 1882 an act was passed which consolidated into one act the special and local laws affecting New York City; Section 347 of this act repeated the main part of the act of 1867 previously mentioned, but the powers there bestowed on the Croton Aqueduct Department were transferred to the Commissioner of Public Works.

In 1894 the City Vigilance League drew up the following petition, which was extensively signed:

*"To the Legislature and Governor of the State of New York.*

"We, the undersigned, residents and citizens of the State and City of New York, in view of the fact that this city is almost entirely without public water-closets and lavatories, and that this state of affairs is a menace to public health, as well as an offense to delicacy and modesty, and that we regard a sufficiency of these as absolutely necessary, do hereby petition the State authorities to grant power to the government of the City of New York:

"To construct public water-closets and urinals in all the squares and parks, and in the tenement house districts at every fourth street."

A bill was introduced in the State Legislature in 1895 making it mandatory on every city or incorporated village with four thousand or more inhabitants to erect in con-

venient public places suitable structures, each containing not less than two public urinals and one public closet, so that there should be in each city two such structures for each thirty thousand inhabitants thereof, and in each such village two such structures, and the number of structures for men and women were to be equal. The local board of health was to take charge of these conveniences, which were to be free, and maintained at the expense of the city or village. This bill failed to pass.

**Bill for  
Men and  
Women.**

With the exception of the provisions made by the Department of Public Parks, there are no water-closets or urinals provided by the city. What are the accommodations in the parks at present? In response to this inquiry, the Secretary of the Department sent the following communication:

City of New York,  
Department of Public Parks,  
49 and 51 Chambers Street.

January 21, 1895.

W. H. Tolman, Esq.,  
Secretary, etc.,

Dear Sir:—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 16th inst., and in reply thereto, I submit herewith a list of the public urinals and water closets provided by the city in the parks:

	Men's Cottages.	Women's Cottages.	Urinals.
Central Park .....	11	8	2
Riverside Park .....		2	
Mt. Morris Park .....	1	1	
City Parks .....	7	3	16
East River Park .....	2	1	
Totals .....	21	15	18

The cottages specified above afford accommodations to from four to eight persons, the urinals from two to eight persons. In the new parks north of the Harlem River, the only accommodations of the nature referred to are in the buildings on the parks, no cottages or urinals having been especially erected for the purpose. Should you desire a list of the buildings in the new parks open for this purpose, the same will be furnished with pleasure.

Very respectfully,  
(Signed) CHARLES DeF. BURNS,  
Secretary, D. P. P.



There was no improvement in these conditions during the sixteen months following, as will be seen by a letter of more recent date:

City of New York,  
Department of Public Parks,  
The Arsenal, Central Park,

May 2, 1896.

Mr. William H. Tolman,

Secretary, Mayor's Committee, Public Baths, etc.,  
105 East Twenty-second Street, New York City,

Dear Sir:—Replying to the inquiry contained in your favor of the 1st inst., I beg to advise you that the conditions of January 21, 1895, with regard to park urinals and accommodations are practically unchanged at this date.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) WILLIAM LEARY,

Secretary.

Accompanying this letter we submit a summary of the city parks and their area in acres:

City Parks.	Area in Acres.
Abingdon Square .....	.202
Battery .....	21.190
Beach Street .....	.038
Bowling Green .....	.517
Bryant .....	4.775
Boston Road, 164th Street .....	.060
Boston Road, 169th Street .....	.160
Central .....	839.921
Canal Street .....	.318
Christopher Street .....	.139
City Hall .....	8.239
Cooper Union .....	.239
Cedar .....	17.470
Duane Street .....	.108
East River .....	12.546
Five Points .....	.114
Fourth Avenue .....	5.630
Fulton Avenue and 167th Street .....	.200
Fulton Avenue and 170th Street .....	.950
Grand Street .....	.630
High Bridge .....	23.380
Jackson Square .....	.227
Jeannette Park .....	.870
Manhattan Square .....	19.051
Madison Square .....	6.840
Morningside .....	31.238
Mount Morris .....	20.174
Park Avenue, 34th Street to 40th Street .....	1.168
Riverside Park and Drive .....	177.800
Rutgers .....	.482
Stuyvesant Square .....	4.229



City Parks.	Area in Acres.
Union Square .....	3.482
Washington Square .....	8.115
Corlears Hook .....	8.390
St. John .....	1.700
Tompkins Square .....	10.508

## TRIANGLES.

Boulevard and 63d Street .....	.344
Boulevard and 66th Street .....	.969
Manhattan Avenue and 114th Street .....	.018
Sixth Avenue, 32d and 35th Streets .....	.186
St. Nicholas Avenue, 123d Street .....	.972
St. Nicholas Avenue, 137th Street .....	.638
St. Nicholas Avenue, 150th Street .....	.240

## SUMMARY.

Central Park .....	839.921
City Parks .....	391.690
Triangles .....	.967

Total, exclusive of new parks ..... 1,231.978

## New Parks.

Van Cortlandt .....	1,132.35
Bronx .....	661.60
Pelham Bay .....	1,756.
Bronx and Pelham Parkway .....	95.
Moshulu .....	80.
Crotona .....	141.65
Claremont .....	38.05
St. Mary's .....	28.70
Croton Parkway .....	12.

Total, new parks ..... 3,945.35

It is clearly evident how inadequate are the municipal provisions for these public conveniences, particularly in the tenement-house districts where there is a congested population. With such ridiculously inadequate municipal provision for the public comfort, the case of the public servants who are letter carriers, street cleaners, and policemen, is particularly distressing, inasmuch as the law forbids the last two classes to enter a saloon while on duty. There are practically no public water-closets or urinals for the policemen and the street sweepers, and the only semi-public conveniences are those of the saloons. That the above reasons are cogent for a system of public comfort stations, is proved again by these two communications.

**Public  
Servants.**

Police Department,  
President's Office,  
City of New York,

New York, May 15, 1895.

My Dear Sir:—I am so pressed for time that I have not had time to examine your preliminary report as carefully as I would;

**Legitimate  
Excuse.**

but in its essentials I am heartily in accord with it. You bring out admirably the effect that the present system has in helping out the saloons. One great trouble we have in trying our policemen for going into saloons in uniform is that they can now plead a legitimate excuse for the very reason you emphasize.

Sincerely yours,  
(Signed) THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Commissioner's Office,  
Police Department  
of the City of New York,  
300 Mulberry Street.

New York, May 21, 1895.

William H. Tolman, Esq.,

No. 427 West Fifty-seventh Street, New York.

My Dear Sir:—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 14th inst., enclosing a preliminary report of the Sub-Committee of Seventy, upon Baths and Lavatories.

**Source  
of Injury.**

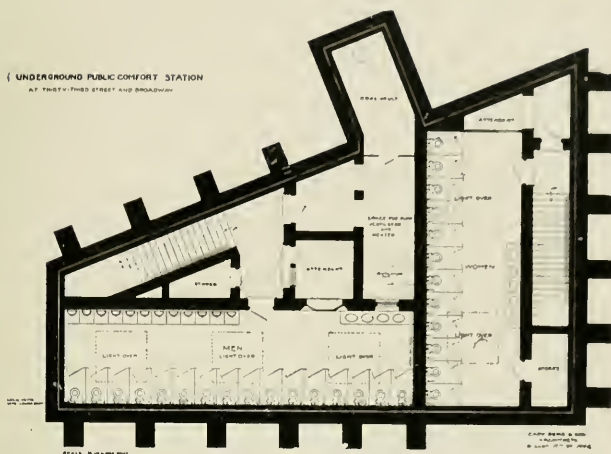
I have not had an opportunity, on account of a press of work, to carefully examine your report, but I most unhesitatingly and heartily endorse the work in which you are so much interested. I say this, not only as a citizen of New York, but more particularly on account of my connection with the Police Department. The want of public lavatories in the City of New York is a source of very great injury to the efficiency of the Police Department. Officers are compelled to leave their posts of duty, and invariably prolong their absence to an undue extent. Furthermore, whenever they are reported for absence from post, the almost invariable excuse is that of necessity, caused by an absence of lavatories.

The excuse, although hackneyed and many times false, is a difficult one to disprove. I can, therefore, briefly and most heartily state that a development of the system which you propose, would result in the greatest good to the Police Department, and consequently to the welfare of the city.

Wishing you every success in the work which you have undertaken, I am,

Yours very sincerely,  
(Signed) A. D. ANDREWS,  
Police Commissioner.

In the early part of February, 1896, a bill was introduced into both Senate and Assembly giving a monopoly



*Copyright, 1897, by the Mayor's Committee.*

Proposed Underground Public Comfort Stations. Greeley Square. It will be noted that the park effect will not be disturbed, but at the same time a much needed public convenience will be supplied.



of public lavatory service to Alexander De Fosse, and those who were or might hereafter be associated with him. They were authorized to erect and operate "structures for public lavatories and urinals at convenient points in, upon and along the streets, avenues, roads, parks and public places in cities and towns of the State and to exhibit advertisements and signs thereon." Five cents was to be the maximum charge for lavatory accommodation, and for this soap, towels, etc., were to be supplied. The corporation proposed to pay over to the city 1 per cent. of its gross receipts for the first five years and afterward 2 per cent., the franchise and all structures erected under it reverting to the city at the end of thirty years. By subsequent amendment, the interior of the kiosks might be used by the city departments for telephone, police, fire and ambulance calls, post offices and express boxes, and such kiosks as were not required by the respective cities might be used by the company for the sale of necessary or convenient articles. The limitation of the franchise to thirty years was removed in this amended bill.

**Kiosks.**

The scheme aroused much opposition. It was objected that it would mean the practical surrender, at a nominal rental, of the streets, avenues, parks and public places in every city and town of the entire State where the kiosks would be erected, for advertising purposes, to a company that ought to pay liberally for this privilege, if it were ever considered wise to disfigure the streets and parks in the manner proposed. Home rule was subverted to this advertising monopoly. Fortunately the opposition was alert and watchful and succeeded in defeating the project.

**Home  
Rule.**

A law which was passed May 19, 1896, amended the powers of the Board of Aldermen, giving them permission "to grant permits for the erection of booths and stands within stoop lines, the owner or owners of said premises consenting thereto, for use by bootblacks, for the sale of newspapers, periodicals, fruits and soda water only, and also to grant permits for the erection of booths and stands in or on the space immediately underneath the steps or stairs leading to and from the elevated railroad stations, and within the curb line, for the sale of newspapers and periodicals."

Under this law a resolution was introduced by Alderman Noonan giving to "A. B. & C." the right to erect and maintain for twenty years advertising booths or news-stands under all the "L" stairs. The company was to furnish free ice water and a free lavatory, the city supplying the water, the Aldermen naming a newsdealer to occupy the stand rent free, he to keep the booth

**Free  
Ice  
Water.**



clean and pay for lighting, the city to have police, fire and ambulance calls and space for a city directory, and the company to pay to the city 5 per cent. of its net profits from advertising.

This was denounced as a revival of the De Fosse bill, while one Alderman stated that he was authorized to offer 20 per cent. of the gross receipts by responsible parties. The resolution failed to get through the committee.

In England it has long been the custom to provide public urinals. Of late years there has been a revolt against the disfigurement caused by these places to the public streets, and many cities are now building underground conveniences, usually furnishing better accommodation. A fee of 2d. is charged for the use of towels and soap with hot water in the lavatory, and 1d. for the use of the water-closets. There are often one or more free seats in both men's and women's departments, and the urinals are always free. In London the entrance is usually in the center of a street, and the narrow strip of sidewalk around it serves as one of the refuges so numerous in crowded public streets. The Islington Vestry has recently erected two underground conveniences, and two others are in course of erection. Of these latter, one is for women. It will contain seven water-closets and a lavatory, and is situated near the first one opened for men. The other is for both sexes, and will contain seven water-closets and lavatory for men, and four water-closets and lavatory for women. The first convenience for men only was opened on December 3, 1894, and cost £1598 7s. 6d. It is situated under the carriageway of the High Street, and comprises entrance and exit staircases enclosed by wrought iron railings, six water-closets, twelve urinals, lavatory with three basins, attendant's room and two storerooms. The roof is formed of pavement lights supported on steel joists and is laid out as a refuge. The brickwork has been built in Portland cement. The interior is faced with white glazed bricks, with a plinth and dado of blue glazed bricks, the whole being laid with very fine joints. To prevent the soaking of water into the brickwork, a horizontal damp course has been laid in all walls at the floor level, the back of the exterior walls has been twice coated with a boiling mixture of tar and pitch, and a backing of dry rubble has been put around the walls, and drains formed of channel pipes laid so as to discharge subsoil water through weep holes in the exterior walls into gullies inside the convenience. The drains are formed of glazed stoneware socketed pipes, jointed with cement and made watertight. They are ventilated into brick chambers in the carriageway, the chambers also acting as surface water

Lavatories.

Plinth and  
Dado.

gullies. The floors are laid with vitreous tiles. Cast iron gratings and a central lamp column on the refuge have been provided for the ventilation of the convenience. Gas jets fixed over the doors of the water-closets light the convenience at night, and the products of combustion are collected by hoods placed above the jets, and conveyed by tubes discharging under the ventilating gratings on the refuge.

The second convenience, for both men and women, was opened a week later and cost £2542 9s. 4d. The Vestry met with considerable difficulties in the site. The Public Health (London) Act, 1891, which vests the ground under the carriageway of a road in the Local Authority for the purpose of constructing public conveniences, does not give the same right to the ground under the sidewalk. The center of the road was occupied by a double line of street cars, and large water mains were directly underneath. The owner of the property would not permit the use of the sidewalk for the construction of staircases though he permitted the construction of areas under part of it, and the staircases were built in the street, though it was only possible to construct one entrance and exit for the two conveniences. The men's convenience comprises twelve urinals, five water-closets and two lavatories; the women's, four water-closets (one free) and a lavatory with two basins. There is an attendant's room and a storeroom under the staircase in each convenience. The main wall next the center of the road runs for its entire length alongside a water main three feet in diameter. In order to avoid disturbing the water main, shafts have been sunk on one side and headings driven under it near each of the sockets. Each heading was taken down to the level of the foundations of the main wall, a pier of cement concrete was then put in the heading and carried half way up the water main, and as soon as the concrete was set, the excavation for and the building of the main wall referred to were proceeded with, the three-foot water main being securely supported by the concrete piers.

The interior work is similar to that in the first-mentioned convenience. As the sewer into which the conveniences are drained is shallow and is also subject to flooding during heavy rainfalls, arrangements have had to be made for the prevention of the flooding of the convenience when the sewer is overfull. The drain will then be shut off from the sewer by a valve placed in a manhole immediately outside the convenience, worked from the inside of the men's convenience. In order to provide for draining of the convenience when the sewer is flooded, a tank has been con-

structed under the floor of the men's convenience. An automatic alarm worked by the water rising in the manhole indicates when the valve must be closed to prevent the flooding of the convenience by the water from the sewer, and also, as the water subsides, when the valve may be opened again. Cast iron gratings have been fixed in the risers of the stairs and openings formed in the rear walls of the water-closets so that a current of air may pass through the convenience to the "Blackman" exhaust fans, which are worked by the pressure of water from the street main, the water being afterwards used for flushing the urinals and the drains. The roof of the convenience is formed of steel troughing carried by built girders of wrought iron. The troughing is covered with cement which forms the foundation of the roadway above.

For three months to the end of the financial year, the receipts at both these conveniences were extremely satisfactory, and more than met the working expenses.

#### HIGH STREET CONVENIENCE.

##### RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
782 tickets for lavatory at 2d. ....	6	10	4
21,678 tickets for use of water closet at 1d. ...	90	6	6
Total .....	£96	16	10

##### PAYMENTS.

Wages .....	42	4	2
Uniforms .....	2	11	10
Tickets and ticket holders .....	7	2	0
Brooms and brushes .....	6	5	11
Chandlery .....	1	4	10
Washing towels .....	1	13	4
Gas .....	1	2	3
Water .....	1	5	3
Miscellaneous .....	1	3	9
Total .....	£64	13	4
Surplus .....	£32	3	6
	£96	16	10

Interest on loan, June 12, 1893, to March 31, 1895	69	9	4
Principal repaid .....	44	0	0
Total .....	£113	9	4

#### PARKHURST ROAD CONVENIENCE.

##### RECEIPTS.

Men:—			
366 tickets for lavatory at 2d. ....	3	1	0
13,108 tickets for water closet at 1d. ....	54	12	4
Women:—			
44 tickets for lavatory at 2d. ....	0	7	4
5,278 tickets for water closet at 1d. ....	21	19	10
Total .....	£80	0	6
Deficit .....	25	1	1
	£105	1	7

## EXPENSES.

	£	s.	d.
Wages of attendants (men's) .....	41	3	7
Wages of attendants (women's) .....	28	8	7
Uniforms .....	2	11	10
Tickets and ticket holders .....	10	12	8
Brooms and brushes .....	11	10	1
Chandlery .....	1	1	0
Washing towels .....	1	0	0
Gas fitting .....	1	13	0
Gas .....	1	8	9
Water .....	1	0	10
Miscellaneous .....	1	11	3
Total .....	£105	1	7
Interest on loans .....	£19	2	1

For the first convenience a loan of £1300 was obtained from the London County Council at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; for the second a loan of £2400. Both conveniences were designed by the Chief Surveyor of the Vestry.

Besides these conveniences Islington has forty-two public urinals with one hundred and eighty-eight compartments, all free. In the year ending March 31, 1895, the cost was as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Masons and paviors' work .....	25	2	2
Painting and repairs and provision of automatic flushing apparatus throughout Parish .....	160	0	0
Water for flushing .....	184	1	3
Smiths' work and repairs .....	9	17	2
Plates and sinks .....	4	9	3
Notice tablets .....	9	17	4
Acknowledgment for sites .....	0	12	0
Total .....	£393	19	2

The conveniences and urinals are managed by the Works Committee of the Vestry, the Finance Department checking the receipts.

The parish of Chelsea, London, with less than 100,000 inhabitants, contains seventeen urinals and two underground conveniences. The cost of maintaining the former during the financial year 1893-4 was £1579 10s. 10d., and in 1894-5, £934 11s. 4d. This included thorough repairs to one urinal, while another was removed and reconstructed on a new site. Patent automatic flushing tanks had been fitted to all these conveniences and were reported to be working well, and using less water with equal efficiency. The second latrine was designed and built by the men in



the direct employ of the Vestry at a cost of £625. The receipts and expenses for these underground conveniences were as follows:

	Sloane Square.			World's End.	
	No. Using.	Receipts.	Working Expenses.	No. Using.	Receipts.
1893-4 . . . .	58,709	£262 13 2	£262 7 10	1,750	£ 7 9 1
1894-5 . . . .	62,200	267 12 7	272 0 1	18,635	78 18 1

The figures given for 1893-4 at the World's End convenience are from date of opening, February 5, to March 25, 1894.

St. George, Hanover Square, has a population about equal to that of Chelsea, and has now three latrines, a fourth being in course of construction.

Some idea of the accommodation provided may be gathered from the following:

No.	Date of opening	Cost	Accommodations.					
			Men				Women	
			Urinals.	Water Closets.	Lavatories.	Attendant's Room.	Water Closets.	Lavatories.
1	1891	£ 1434 2 8	13	5	1			
2	1893	7378 15 8	72	24 paid and 2 free	2 with 6 basins each	2	8	1 with two basins and two private with basin and water closet
3	1894	995 10 6	14	6	3		4	2
4		6473 0 0	32	12	6		12	4

The cost of the first convenience includes outlay for an ornamental cast iron clock tower with clock and four dials. The second and largest is built on a site at the Marble Arch granted by the Government Office of Works. It is built underground of brickwork faced inside with ivory white glazed bricks. It is surrounded above the ground level by a handsome balustrade of solid Portland stone. There are four entrances, two from the road and two from Hyde Park, each five feet wide and fitted with Bostwick's patent iron collapsible trellis gates. The water-closets are of the pedestal pattern, fitted with mahogany seats and flushing tanks, etc. The urinals are semi-circular fire-clay backs, in white enamel with polished Rouge Royal Marble divisions. The lavatories are also fitted with polished marble tops, and are supplied with

Marble Arch Convenience.



hot and cold water. The usual charges are made. The women's department is entirely above ground, and is similar in character to the lodges in the parks. It is a substantial structure of Grecian design, built of brickwork faced on the outside with solid Portland stone, and on the inside with ivory white glazed bricks. For the use of a private lavatory, containing washbasin and water-closet, a special charge of 4d. is made. The fittings are similar to those in the men's department, the floor being laid with black and white encaustic tiles. There are two entrances, one in the park. The drainage was designed in accordance with the most approved principles of sanitation, and the sanitary appliances and fittings are of the most modern description. Both departments have good light and ventilation, and are lighted by electricity. The doors of the water-closets have patent automatic "penny-in-the-slot" locks. The men's department is open from 7 a. m. to 12.30 a. m., and the women's from 8 a. m. till midnight week days; on Sundays both are open from 9 a. m. to 11 p. m.

The Board of Works for the St. Giles District, which has a population of about 50,000, has recently erected two latrines. The first, on Shaftesbury Avenue, was opened in 1892, and the cost in the financial year 1892-3 for building and maintenance was £1002 7s. 8d.; the receipts for the same period were £267 8s. 2d. For the year ending 1893-4, the receipts were £327 3s. 3d.; expenses as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Wages of attendant .....	223	12	0
Repairs .....	42	10	8
Water supply .....	15	14	0
Lighting .....	34	17	6
Disinfectants .....	29	11	7
Attendants' uniforms, washing towels, soap, chandlery, etc. ....	65	6	10
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>£411</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>
Repayment of loan .....	180	0	0
Interest on loan .....	55	3	2
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>£646</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>

The latrine for men and women at the junction of New Oxford Street and Charing Cross Road was opened September 29, 1895, at a cost of about £2500, and has proved a great success. There are fourteen urinals, twelve water-closets and three lavatories for men, and six water-closets and three lavatories for women. All the urinals and one of the women's water-closets are free; the usual charges are made for other accommodation, and

it is estimated that the receipts will amount to about £1000. The latrine has a superficial area of 1500 feet, and is situated at a depth of fourteen feet below the level of the roadway. The women's department is approached by a stairway leading from the sidewalk. The internal fittings are of the most modern description. The water-closets are Jennings' syphonic discharge apparatus, and the urinals of the radial basin stall pattern. The convenience is ventilated by Blackman's air propeller, worked by water power, the waste water being used for flushing. The ventilator is placed beneath a refuge in the center of the roadway. On each refuge there is an ornamental ventilating lamp column. The roof of the latrine is of rolled steel girders and trough plates; the staircases are formed of iron framing with patent reversible treads. Beside the latrines the Board of Works maintains fourteen urinals with fifty-one stalls, the number of stalls varying from one to six. Only two of these, with four compartments, are without an automatic water supply. The whole of them were repainted during the year at a cost of £25.

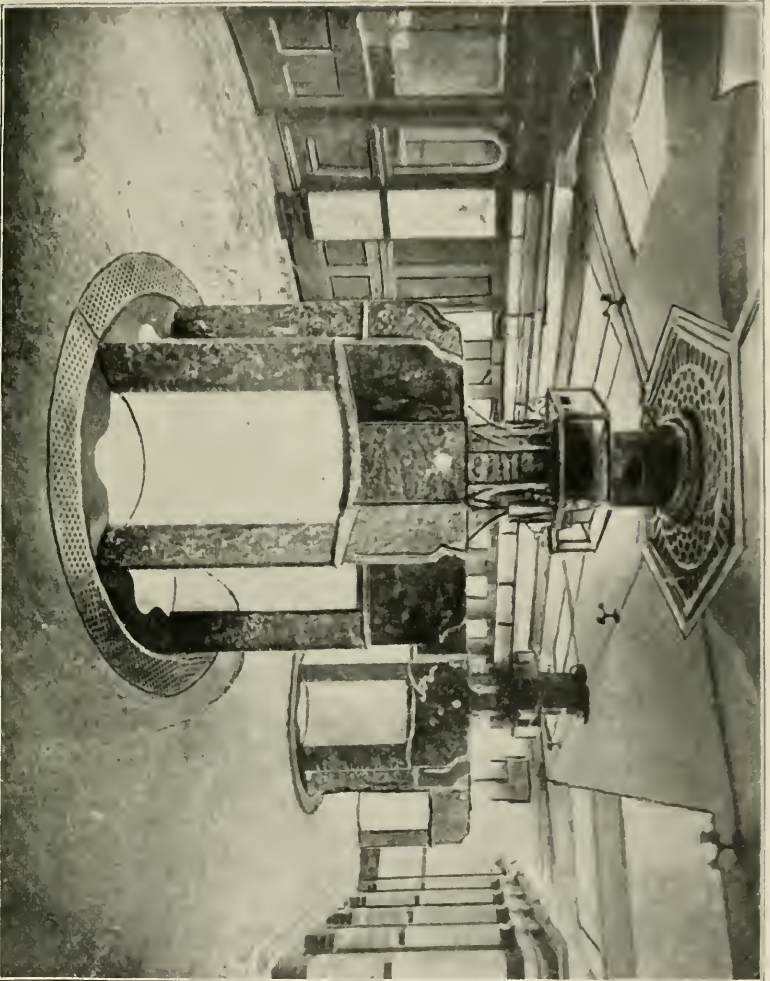
The parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields maintains a latrine at Charing Cross, which is kept open from 7 a. m. to midnight on week-days, and until 11 p. m. on Sundays. In winter the women's department is opened at 8 a. m. Besides this, the Vestry maintains nine urinals with thirty-one compartments. Of these, six are of slate, two of iron and one of brick and slate. The receipts and payments for 1893-4 were as follows:

## RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Rebate on electric current .....	1	13	10
Payments for use of lavatories, etc. ....	794	9	9
Total .....	£796	3	7

## PAYMENTS.

Contract .....	312	3	11
Electric light .....	58	17	9
Water .....	210	2	1
Condensers .....	11	14	4
Law costs .....	13	11	0
Gas .....	12	13	2
Repairs .....	303	18	11
Painting urinals .....	58	7	1
Paper, name plates, uniforms, etc. ....	20	17	7
Wages and washing towels, Charing Cross lavatory .....	296	16	6
Wages, cleansing urinals, etc. ....	67	13	10
Oilman's goods .....	17	17	7
Sundries .....	34	15	8
Total .....	£1,419	9	5



Underground Lavatory (Interior), Charing Cross, London. Most of the conveniences are supplied at a small fee, usually two cents. Small as they are, these charges nearly defray the operating expenses.



Of this, £271 13s. 10d. was spent on the maintenance and repairs of the urinals, which are free.

Shoreditch opened an underground sanitary convenience and lavatory for both sexes in October, 1895, at a total cost of about £1800, towards which a street railway corporation contributed £600. The convenience is sixty feet by fifteen feet, and its floor is about ten feet below the surface of the roadway. There are twelve urinals, six water-closets and three lavatories for men, and three water-closets and one lavatory for women. The convenience was constructed by the same contractor as the new convenience in the St. Giles district, and its fittings are very similar.

The Strand District Board of Works maintains two latrines, the accommodation being as follows:

Latrine.	Cost.	Accommodation.				
		Men.			Women.	
		Urinals.	Water Closets.	Lavatories.	Water Closets.	Lav'tories.
Wellington St. . .	£1,860	18	10	4	4	2
Law Courts . . . .	2,474	20	12	5	4	2

In addition to these latrines maintained by the local authority there are six free and ten other latrines for which a charge of 1d. is made in Covent Garden Market.

The accommodations outside of London are not so adequate, though the large cities are rapidly taking the matter up.

Birmingham makes more provision for women than most other places, as will be seen from the following table of accommodations provided for women only:

Premises.	Charge.	Wages of Attendant.	Time.
Two small premises fitted up as shops, contain two water-closets each. . . . .	½d	10s. per week	9 a. m. to 7 p. m.
Two sets, contain'g six	1d and ½d	15s. and 10s. per week	8 a. m. to 8 p. m.
One building, five. . . .	1d	9s. per week	9.30 a. m. to 9.30 p. m.

Bradford reports thirty-five urinals in the year ending August 31, 1894, as against thirty-two in the previous year. Arrangements were made for four more, and negotiations pending for one in the workhouse grounds. The urinals are under the care of the Sanitary Committee of the Town Council.



Brighton, for the year 1894-5, reported the working expense of its lavatories to be £560 11s. 11d., receipts, £700 11s. 3d., a very favorable state of affairs.

Burnley, with a population of over 60,000, spent £260 on its conveniences in the year ending March 25, 1894, and £435 in the following year.

Croydon, with 80,000 population, spent £255 5s. 3d. on new urinals in the year 1893-4, and the following for working expenses of both drinking fountains and urinals:

	£	s.	d.
Rent of sites .....	0	14	0
Repairs to urinals .....	27	9	6
Hose .....	2	2	9
Ironmonger, etc. ....	5	16	9
Gas .....	4	18	11
New fountain and repairs .....	7	0	6
Wages .....	88	5	8
Total .....	£136	8	1

Sheffield's account for these conveniences for the year 1894-5 was as follows:

#### URINALS.

	£	s.	d.
Acknowledgments for privilege to erect urinals .....	3	1	0
Plumbing and repairs .....	46	14	10
Water and gas .....	320	12	10
Total .....	£370	8	8

#### WAITING ROOMS.

##### RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Fitzalan Square:—						
Use of men's lavatories .....	122	17	10			
Use of women's lavatories .....	142	6	1			
				265	3	11
Moorhead:—						
Use of men's lavatories .....	66	18	3			
Use of women's lavatories .....	50	5	5			
				117	3	8
				£382	7	7

##### PAYMENTS.

Fitzalan Square:—						
Wages of attendant .....	46	16	0			
Rates, taxes, gas and water.....	47	12	6			
Washing towels, repairs, etc....	25	12	10			
				120	1	4
Moorhead:—						
Wages of attendant .....	41	12	0			
Gas and water .....	17	17	11			
Cleaning material, repairs, etc...	13	15	9			
				73	5	8
Total .....	£193	7	0			

In Germany the accommodation provided is very similar. Altona has erected chalets for ladies, with a notion store in the front, this making it possible for ladies to enter without embarrassment, as the entrance is always through the shops.

**Altona.**

Berlin has 146 urinals with 735 compartments. Every day they use 971,000 gallons of water or 354,900,000 per year, at a cost of \$3190. Lately the city has been experimenting with an oil closure system, which would take the place of flushing. For this a mixture of petroleum and rapeseed oil has been used. The oil being comparatively light rises to the top and keeps down all disagreeable odors. The saving is said to be considerable. The city has not yet decided to adopt the system altogether, but is investigating it. The urinals were introduced at a very early date, but, of course, only provided for men. In 1877 two conveniences for women were opened in schoolhouses, and one in the playground of a schoolhouse. The use of these was free, except that in each establishment one closet was only to be used on payment of a small "tip" to the attendant. These conveniences were not much used, and a private contractor established five others in rented rooms for both men and women. Each establishment contained accommodation for from six to eight persons. The enterprise failed for lack of support, partly due to the places not being sufficiently noticeable. In 1879 the contractor obtained permission to erect conveniences in various public places; and the necessary water was freely granted. There are now twenty-two such places, with accommodations for both sexes. The city has made a very advantageous agreement with the contractor, by which he turns over 10 per cent. of the net income to the city, and at the expiration of the agreement the conveniences become the property of the city. A fee of 10 pfennigs (2.38 cents), first class, and 5 pfennigs, second class, is charged. In the first-class toilet is a washbasin, towel and mirror, which are absent in the second class. An extra 5 pfennigs is charged for clean towel, soap, comb and brush. No one is allowed to remain longer than fifteen minutes in a compartment. Seven of the establishments are open all night, the remainder from 7 a. m. to 11 p. m. The attendant receives 33 cents for either day duty (7 a. m. to 11 p. m.) or night duty (10 p. m. to 8 a. m.).

**Berlin.**

**Private  
Con-  
tractor.**

Brunswick, with 75,000 inhabitants, has only two municipal public comfort stations in two of the larger market places. The usual fees are charged. The urinals, the numbers of which are continually increasing, are everywhere free.

**Brunswick.**

**Chemnitz.**

Chemnitz provides for a population of 139,000 three latrines. The first, for both men and women, was erected in 1890 at a cost of \$1140. For the use of either closet or urinal there is a fee of 5 pfennigs (1.19 cents). Automatic paying machines are placed at the door of each compartment. In 1892 this establishment was used by 7830 persons, in 1893 by 7172, in 1894 by 7078, in 1895 by 6618. Two other conveniences were built in 1895 at a cost of \$640 and \$950 respectively. In addition there are twenty-six public urinals, for the use of which no fee is charged. These are partly water flushing, partly oil disinfection; the latter method has proved very successful. The management and control are vested in the City Building Department. For 1894 the cost was as follows:

	Appropriation.	Actual Cost.
Erection of new urinal .....	\$142 80	\$142 38
Cleansing and disinfecting urinals .....	628 32	598 12
Water for flushing .....	1,951 60	1,777 86

**Dresden.**

Dresden has twenty-nine public conveniences for men, one of which can be used as a lavatory by women, for which a small fee is paid to the attendant. A second public lavatory for women is erected on city property and leased to a contractor for \$72 yearly; he charges a small fee for the use of it. A joint stock Company for Hygienic Purposes has erected eleven latrines for both men and women. There are two classes, the first containing two closets for each sex, and the second, one each and a urinal. The usual fees are charged and there is an automatic registering apparatus. The company does not guarantee a dividend, as the income has never been high enough.

**Hamburg.**

Hamburg contains a number of urinals and water-closets for free use. Several of them are built casemate-like into the lining wall of deep-lying landing places. Besides these, a limited liability Company for Hygienic Purposes has established conveniences on city grounds, parks, etc., whose use it obtained free. The buildings are of iron and contain the usual accommodation at 10 and 5 pfennigs.

**Leipzig.**

Leipzig's urinals are in the form of little houses built of iron or corrugated sheet metal; they have an open entrance protected by a screening wall and contain as a rule, three, rarely seven, standing places, the use of which is free of charge. They are lighted by gas, furnished with intermittent water rinsing, and connected with the city's sewer system. Lately, patented oil closures have been introduced into them. Disinfection is accom-

plished by the use of diluted carbolic acid. The City's Economy Inspection cares for and maintains these places. There are also twenty-one conveniences containing seven urinal stands, one closet for men, and two (with facilities for washing) for women. The attendant stays in the women's department and has to go around the building when summoned by a bell. Two establishments have lately been erected after a Vienna model and contain six urinals and one closet for men and three closets for women. The attendant stays in the middle of the establishment and does not need to go outside of the building to the men's department. They have patented oil closure instead of water rinsing, and are lighted by gas and heated by coke stoves. The cost of such an establishment, including foundation walls and sewer connection, is a little over \$2000. The use of the urinals for men, and one closet for women is free, for the other accommodation the usual charges are made. The urinals are always kept open; the closets from 7 a. m. to 8 p. m. in summer, and from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. in winter. The attendants are elderly women, usually widows, who receive either \$1.19 a week wages and the receipts, in consideration of which they take care of the cleaning and closing of the houses and furnish the necessary linen, or they have a weekly wage of \$1.90 and turn over the receipts to the city, which then furnishes the linen. An automatic numbering machine gives the necessary control. All of the establishments have proved to be of practical value, and are willingly patronized by the people.

In Munich the urinals are generally separated from the closets, and are pavilion-shaped, with an octagonal base. As there is a great waste of water, the oil closure system is to be tried. The conveniences for both sexes are always under the same roof, but with separate entrances. The attendant's room in the center gives an oversight to both departments. There are no conveniences especially for women, nor is it proposed to erect any. It is projected to put urinals into each convenience.

#### Munich

Posen supplies the usual German accommodation at the ordinary charges.

Only two conveniences in Strassburg have water-closets. There is no charge except to women, who pay 10 pfennigs (2.38 cents). A further convenience more liberally provided with water-closets is shortly to be erected.

Stuttgart is just introducing public comfort stations, to be built by the same contractor Leipzig employed.



Austrian cities follow German models.

**Austria.** Vienna has 178 urinals with 798 compartments, besides a number of conveniences. It was the first city to introduce the oil closure system, which has proved very satisfactory, and is now being generally adopted throughout Europe.

Cracow, with 66,000 population, has no water pipes, and hence no public conveniences with water rinsing apparatus.

Graz is erecting three public comfort stations to supersede the urinals and closets at present in use.

Laibach has a number of urinals and plain, unpretentious closets, for which no fee is charged. Besides these there are little houses with class divisions. In each class is one water-closet and a urinal with permanent water rinsing for men, and a water-closet for women. There is also an attendant's room. All these places are city property and are managed by the city.

Milan, Italy, contains two public comfort stations. One on the Via S. Croce accommodates ninety persons and cost \$5790. The other, on the Via Cherubini, provides for sixty-six persons. These are free, and no account is kept of the number using them.

**Sweden.**

Gothenburg, Sweden, has no lavatories, but there are sixteen public water-closets, for which no fee is charged. The cost for maintenance in 1894 was \$580.68. There are, besides, about 200 urinals.



## CHAPTER XII.

### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE.

#### *Plans for a Public Bath on a site 100 by 50 feet.*

According to the law quoted page 31 the Board of Health is to determine how many public baths will be necessary. President Wilson, in behalf of the Board, determined upon the general vicinity of sites for seven baths, and requested the Mayor's Committee to submit him plans and studies for a lot 100 by 50 feet. When ordering the plans he stipulated that the city was not to be called upon to pay for them unless they met the approval of the Board. This request was made in April, 1895; July 8 the Committee had the pleasure of forwarding the following communication.

Mayor's  
Com-  
mittee.

New York, July 8, 1895.

Hon. Charles G. Wilson,

President Board of Health, New York City.

My Dear Sir:—Since my last report to you, I have the honor of informing you that the Mayor appointed Messrs. Hamilton, Archibald, Morris and Tolman a "Mayor's Committee on Public Baths and Lavatories," with a view of continuing investigations and seeing if some means cannot be devised for working and trying at once some of the recommendations of the sub-committee of the late Committee of Seventy.

In pursuance of his Honor's request, the above gentlemen met for reorganization July 1st. Mr. William G. Hamilton was chosen Chairman; Dr. Moreau Morris, Vice-Chairman, and William H. Tolman, Secretary.

The Mayor's Committee therefore submit for the consideration of your Board the accompanying studies and plans for a public bath on a city lot 100 by 50 feet. We should state, in accordance with your request of April, 1895, for studies and plans for a public bath, that we at once communicated with our architects, Messrs. Cady, Berg & See, and would respectfully recommend:

(1) That Messrs. Cady, Berg & See be appointed architects of such public baths as your Board shall determine, because their plans embody the wishes of the Committee, and their experience in the construction of public baths in the City of New York has been crowned with success. By this means your Board may avail itself of

the studies of the Committee and the knowledge which is the result of successful experience.

**Sites.**

(2) That the accompanying plans shall regard a public bath to be built in the vicinity of Tompkins Square, and shall be the first of a series of five others to be located in the vicinity of

1. Washington and Carlisle Streets.
2. Chatham Square.
3. Essex Market.
4. Tompkins Square.
5. Fifty-eighth Street and Eleventh Avenue.
6. One Hundred and Tenth Street and Second Avenue.

It should be stated that these very sites had been recommended by a member of your own Board in a report to you, and had been selected entirely independently of the Committee.

(3) It is the urgent recommendation of the Committee, a fact which is confirmed by the practice of the best English and Continental baths, that a fee should be charged for the use of, say 75 per cent. of the baths, with the remainder free, as a bath is not a charity to be enjoyed for the mere asking, whereby the recipient loses his independency, but should be a municipal provision for cleanliness on the payment of a fair charge; then the user retains his independency.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Committee,

(Signed) WM. HOWE TOLMAN,

Secretary.

The report was received by the Board and deemed of so great importance that it was referred to a special committee. After careful deliberation the matter was reported to the Board, and the following action communicated to the Committee:

Health Department,

New York, August 21, 1895.

Wm. Howe Tolman, Esq.,

Secretary, etc.,

105 East Twenty-second Street, New York.

**Approval.**

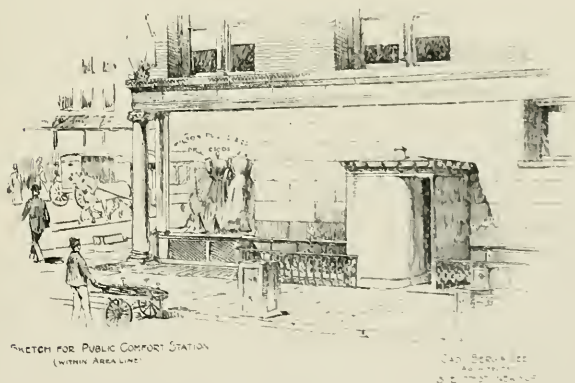
Dear Sir:—At a meeting of the Board of Health of the Health Department, held August 20, 1895, the following resolution was adopted:

“Resolved, That this Board hereby approves of the plans for a public bathhouse recently submitted to it by the Mayor’s Com-



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Suggested Public Comfort Stations, to be located under the stairway of the Elevated Railroad Stations. Each station could be sufficiently large to accommodate some of the utensils of the street-cleaning department.



Copyright, 1897, by the Mayor's Committee.

Suggested Public Comfort Station, to be located within the area line, against dead walls. Each policeman's post should contain at least one Public Comfort Station, thus affording a convenience for letter carriers, street sweepers and policemen, thereby removing the necessity of utilizing the saloons, a usage which is in violation of the law.



mittee on Public Baths, Water-Closets and Urinals, as prepared by Messrs. Cady, Berg & See, architects and engineers."

(Signed) EMMONS CLARK,  
Secretary.

A True Copy.

In the plans and studies for the first bath, the Committee were obliged to follow the general principles of the People's Bath in Centre Market Place, adding the latest experience of the European models. The Committee also availed themselves of the experience of their architects in the construction and planning of hospitals and other public buildings, hence a composite study was secured that will be perfectly suited to American needs and conditions.

Describing the details of the proposed bath, it will be seen that this bathhouse furnishes eighty baths, of which forty-two are for men, fifteen for boys, and twenty-three for women. Those for men and boys are so arranged that their proportions can be reversed at times when a large number of boys will be present. These baths will further meet the needs of those for whom the bath-tub rather than the spray is desirable, three tubs being located in the mezzanine story and eleven in the second story; provision is also made for separate baths for men who are too filthy to be admitted to the public baths.

**Capacity.**

Besides these sub-divisions there is a general division of the house into male and female departments. The moment one enters the house, one passes either into the male or female waiting-room, which are separated by a central office and partition of glass and ornamental iron, so located that one person controls both entrances, as well as all the entrances to baths, stairways, etc.; thus, no one can enter or leave the building, or its baths, without being seen from this point. This separation applies not only to the bathers, but to employes as well, as no person can pass from the male to the female departments, or the reverse, without passing through this central office or controlling point on the main floor; the economy of this arrangement in the administration of the baths is evident; for, at times when there are few bathers present, one person can control all parts of the buildings.

**Departments.**

The baths themselves are constructed of iron, marble and unbreakable glass, the iron being finished in white enamel. Each individual spray bath has two compartments, one a dressing-room, and the other for the bath itself. The floors throughout are of solid masonry, no iron beams being used, to prevent



cracking due to their expansion and contraction. The floor of each bath compartment has sunk into it a little marble foot bath; each bath and apartment will have separate drain to main sewer, this for cleanliness as well as hygienic reasons.

Excepting the fourteen tub baths, the baths themselves will for the most part be "rain showers" or "ring showers" (the latter arranged so that water will not strike the head, and preferred usually by women).

The material, and the manner in which it is used, will greatly aid in the maintenance of cleanliness; the partitions being of heavy rolled glass (with wirework imbedded in it), the necessary framework, and door of metal, finished in white enamel. The foot of the glass partitions is to be finished in strong enamelled wire work for ventilation, while the tops of the compartments will be covered with the same material, allowing the free play of light and air, but preventing thievery.

The solid masonry foundation permits the use of white vitrified tiling for the floor, without danger of cracks or open joints; and it has the further important value of furnishing a series of masonry passageways, which will be used for the plumbing and ventilating pipes, and will give the engineer easy access to them, while keeping all parts separate.

No plunge baths or double baths of any kind will be used for easily understood hygienic reasons.

This bath, as planned, should readily accommodate one million bathers per year, if kept open as required by law, and properly administered.

The plans of the Committee contemplate ample provision for free public water-closets and urinals, in all parts of the city, but it has been deemed wise to not await their completion, but to make a start in this building. A free lavatory containing water-closets, urinals and wash sinks, has been provided in the basement, accessible directly from the street. The water-closet seats will be so arranged that they cannot possibly be stood upon.

Of course ample water-closets, urinals, wash basins and sinks are provided for the employees also, in each department of baths, and all located for convenience of access.

The administrative parts of the building consist of the engine and boiler rooms, which are placed in the basement, and from which by means of the brick passages already alluded to above the engineer can readily control all of the main and

**Public  
Lavatory  
for Men.**

**Adminis-  
tration.**

branch lines of plumbing, as well as all parts of the heating and ventilating apparatus and air ducts.

The laundry is placed on the second floor, where the best light and air will be obtained.

The circular office or central controlling point is built in the main waiting-room, not only giving simple and convenient control of it, as previously mentioned, but making a central point from which keys, towels, soap and other supplies can be given out.

Each bather should be allowed twenty minutes per bath; sand glasses (which are reversed when he enters) indicating to the attendant when the bather's time has expired.

**Control of  
Bathers.**

We think it would be advisable in the first building to be built to try experimentally the several systems of controlling the quantity and temperature of water allowed each bather, viz:

First. To build a certain number of baths where the bather himself will be allowed to control both the temperature of the water and the quantity used.

Second. To build some baths where the bather can control the temperature of the water, but where the quantity of hot water is limited.

Third. To build some baths where the bather will have no control over the water supply in any way. The attendant to fix the temperature and the quantity from a central point outside of the baths.

In each case, however, the piping and faucets would be so arranged that under no possible conditions could a bather scald himself.

We would recommend the heating of the water by the German or "Gegenström" system.

The heating and ventilating will be in general on the principle of drawing down the fresh air through the large air shafts in the rear (which would be built high above the neighboring structures), by means of fans and electric motors; regulating its temperature by blowing through plenums, with steam coils under the control of the engineer, and then forcing it to the various parts of the building, in general at a height of about five feet above the floor.

**Heating  
and  
Ventila-  
ting.**

The velocity of the incoming current will be so regulated to the various parts, as to avoid any possibility of

feeling a draught, and yet the air will be constantly changed in every part.

The exhaust would be near the ceilings of the rooms, connecting into branch exhaust ducts provided for that purpose; the branches all connecting to the large duct on the second floor, where a fan and motor would draw the air out of the building. In winter the exhaust fan would not be used, but the air allowed to escape by natural means, using only the inlet fans to force in the fresh air.

All of these ducts would be controlled by the engineer with locking adjusting dampers, to prevent unequal supplies of air, or unnecessary exhaust of same.

#### Design.

The design of the interior has been planned to make the waiting-rooms, as well as the main bathing halls, very attractive by its abundance of windows and skylights, and its light reflecting surfaces. It will everywhere suggest cleanliness and light, and no possibility of hidden disease germs.

The exterior is in classic style, admitting of sufficient ornamentation to be attractive, but retaining the dignity and massiveness necessary to prevent its appearing insignificant or trivial, in comparison with the higher and probably more prominent buildings adjoining.

The material would preferably be marble, although the design would be carried out as well in limestone or other light masonry. Whatever material is used, however, should be light in color.

#### *Proposed Bath for Tompkins Square.*

March 25, 1896, the Act quoted on page 31 became a law. The Mayor was very anxious that aggressive measures should be taken at once and proposed a conference between the Commissioner of Public Works and the Committee, since that department was charged with the initial steps.

#### Special Meeting.

April 22d a special meeting of the Mayor's Committee was held at the office of Mayor Strong, in accordance with his request that the Committee should meet the Honorable the Commissioner of Public Works, in order to discuss the proposed bath and public comfort station. The salient points of the Committee's work were presented to the Mayor and the Commissioner, who both expressed themselves delighted with the work, particularly commending it for its practicability and business-like character. General Collis requested the Secretary to

place at his disposal the recommendations desired by the Committee, in order that he might get the necessary authority from the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. He also signified his willingness to avail himself of the services of Messrs. Cady, Berg & See, the consulting architects of the Committee, and requested plans and drawings of a proposed bath to be located in Tompkins Square, the latter site having been suggested by Mayor Strong as a desirable location for the first public bath.

**Plans  
Accepted.**

In accordance with the official request of the Commissioner of Public Works, the Committee met at the office of General Collis, May 18, and presented plans for the first public bath and two underground public comfort stations, with the accompanying recommendations of the Committee. The entire Committee was present, and, in addition, Messrs. Cady and Berg. The Commissioner accepted the plans and arranged that the Committee, with the architects, should meet the Board of Estimate and Apportionment at the Mayor's office the following morning, May 19, at 11 o'clock. Agreeable to that request, the Mayor's Committee, with the architects, met at the Mayor's office, and were requested by him to accompany him to the Comptroller's office, as the meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment would be held there. The Committee was informed by the Comptroller that the Board had so much business which they must discuss that it would be impossible to reach any consideration of the plans for a public bath and public comfort stations at that meeting.

The following report was submitted in accordance with the request of Commissioner Collis for plans and specifications:

New York, May 18, 1896.

Commissioner C. H. T. Collis,  
Commissioner of Public Works.

My Dear Sir:—In accordance with your request of April 22d, for plans and recommendations for a public bath, the Mayor's Committee would most respectfully recommend that the first public bath be built in Tompkins Square, and that two underground public comfort stations be built, one in the City Hall Park, at the corner of Mail Street and Park Row, and the other in Greeley Square, at the junction of Broadway and Sixth Avenue and Thirty-second Street.

For these we herewith present four sets of plans which have been prepared by Messrs. Cady, Berg & See, under the guidance of and after constant consultations with the Committee, and we further



recommend that Messrs. Cady, Berg & See be appointed the architects and engineers to carry out these structures.

The following list of accommodations to be provided and a description of the plan is most respectfully submitted.

*Free Public Bath.*

The accommodations in this building are for bathers, as follows:

A waiting-room for men and boys, with seats for more than one hundred; also a waiting-room for women, with seats for over fifty.

In the men's baths there are on the main floor twenty-eight rain baths, and fourteen more rain baths on the second floor, where there are also ten tub baths for men, while there are on the main floor seventeen rain baths for boys, making in all sixty-nine baths for men and boys.

The plan is so arranged that the proportions of boys' and men's baths can be reversed at times when most men are at work and public schools are not in session.

The provisions for women are seventeen rain baths on the main floor, and ten tub baths on the second floor, making in all twenty-seven baths. The object of providing some tub baths is for such women and men as cannot stand showers. This number of baths should readily provide for more than one million bathers a year.

In connection with these baths will be built the necessary laundry conveniences for washing towels, also the engineering department for providing the steam, hot water, electric lighting, and for running the ventilation.

All the baths (except those with bathtubs) will have dressing-rooms in front so arranged that the clothing cannot be wetted while bathing, while the bath, or rear compartments, will have either "rain" showers or "ring" showers (the latter arranged not to strike the head, and preferred generally by women).

**Foot  
Baths.**

In each bath floor will be sunk a marble foot bath. Each set of compartments will be arranged to drain separately and to prevent the water from splashing from one bathroom into adjoining compartments or bathrooms; this for cleanliness as well as hygienic reasons.

The partitions of the compartments will be composed of heavy rolled glass, with wire bedded in it, the necessary metal parts being painted with enamel paint.

The doors will be of light metal, painted with enamel paint.



At the foot of the glass partitions will be enamelled wirework in slate frames, to promote thorough ventilation; the tops of the compartments will be covered with heavy enamelled wire work to prevent thieving. The seats and all similar parts are made movable for cleanliness.

It will be noticed that the floors of the baths, throughout the main floor, are on solid masonry. This is done to avoid cracking due to the expansion and contraction of iron beams, which would otherwise take place.

Having solid masonry for a foundation, vitrified tile can be used for a flooring, without any danger of cracking or opening of joints.

Then, too, these masonry foundations furnish a series of brick passages, which will be utilized for plumbing pipes and for ventilation system.

In connection with each set of baths, there will be ample conveniences in the way of water-closets, urinals, washbasins, etc., for men, women and boys.

The administration parts of the building consist of the engine and boiler rooms, which are placed in the basement, and from which, by means of the brick passages, the engineer can readily control all of the main lines of plumbing, as well as the heating and ventilating apparatus and air ducts.

**Adminis-  
tration.**

The laundry is placed on the second floor, where the best light and air will be obtained.

A circular office is built in the main waiting-room in connection with the partition dividing the male and female waiting-rooms (office and partition similar to those enclosing banking-rooms, and about seven feet six inches high, of glass and iron). This office is so located that one person can control both of the main entrances (male and female), and all of the entrances to the various baths, staircases, etc.

No one can enter or leave the building without being seen from here, excepting, of course, those using the public comfort stations and the public laundry.

The plan has been drawn with a view of entirely separating males from females the moment they enter the building.

The plan arranges this not only for the bathers, but also for all employees. No person in any part where there are females (whether bathers or employees) can go to any part where there are males, or

**Separation  
of Males  
and  
Females.**

*vice versa*, without passing through the central controlling office on the main floor.

#### **Control of Bathers.**

In order to avoid too many attendants, we think it will be necessary to allow each bather, excepting those in bathtubs, to control his own hot and cold water faucets so far as the degree of heat is concerned. In each case, however, the piping and faucets would be so arranged that under no possible conditions could a bather scald himself.

This can be readily and economically accomplished by using the well-known German Gegenström System of heating the water. In this system no steam is wasted, but only the actual amount needed to heat the water while in use is consumed.

Outside of each bath, however, will be placed cocks under the control of the attendant, to shut off entirely the supply, both hot and cold, in case a bather attempts to overstay his time limit when the baths are crowded. In the case of the tubs, the attendant will control the quantity and temperature in order to avoid waste of water.

#### **Heating and Ventilating.**

The heating and ventilating will be in general on the principle of drawing down fresh air through the large fresh air shafts (which would be built up high above any other part of the structure), by means of fans and electric motors, regulating its temperature by blowing through plenums with steam coils under the control of the engineer, and then forcing it to the various parts of the building, in general blowing it in at a height of about five feet above the floor and so arranged as to avoid all draughts.

The exhaust would be in branch exhaust ducts provided for that purpose, the branches all connecting to the large exhaust duct in the roof, where a fan and motor would exhaust the air and blow it out of doors. In winter the exhaust fan would not be used, but the air allowed to escape by natural means, using only the inlet fans to force in the fresh air.

All of these ducts, as well as the ceiling lights and skylights, would be controlled by electricity from the engine-room, with locking dampers, to prevent unequal supplies of air or unnecessary exhaust of same. Speaking tubes from all parts to the engine-room will give the engineer a thorough knowledge of the wants of the building at all times.

#### **Design.**

The design of the interior has been planned to make the wait-



Cottage Baths, Brighton (England). It is the plan that a large number of small baths shall be located in the industrial quarters, instead of the erection of one large bathing establishment.



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Among the recommendations of the Committee is the duplication or extension of the Public Comfort Stations in the Parks. The extensions should be in the shape of chalets or other ornamental buildings.



ing-rooms, as well as the main bathing halls very cheerful, and with an abundance of light. Everything will be carried out with a view to the avoidance of dust or dirt, and so arranged that any part can be hosed out thoroughly at any time.

The exterior is in the style known as Italian, and has been made very simple and dignified. This style has been selected so as to be able to keep the building as low as possible, making it unobtrusive and not obstructing the sunshine and air of the park. It, however, will have sufficient dignity and massiveness not to appear insignificant or trivial in comparison with the higher buildings on the avenue.

The material should preferably be of light stone, as this at once suggests the idea of purity and cleanliness, and accords well with the style chosen, best bringing out its lines and detail.

The piazzas running along each side form a connection between the designs of the ends, and at the same time give a shady place for settees, where people can rest; while at the end of the piazza drinking fountains for public convenience will be provided.

The bathhouse will be least obstructive in the park by placing it on the center of the east side of Tompkins Park, immediately adjoining Avenue B. The entrances for men and boys, that is, to the baths and to the men's public comfort station, would be from the Avenue. Those for women, to the baths, laundry and public comfort station, would be from the park side, the approaches so arranged as to be screened by shrubbery.

**Location.**

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,

(Signed) WM. H. TOLMAN,

Secretary.

When it became known that the Committee proposed to locate the first bath in Tompkins Square, a general protest was made, on behalf of the inhabitants of that part of the city. It was claimed that the park space was altogether too small as it was, and that it would be a serious loss to invade the park by the location of a building devoted to public purposes. The protest was so strong, and the points so well taken, that, after a conference with the Mayor, it was decided to withdraw all recommendations for the location of a bath in Tompkins Square. The Committee pointed out to His Honor the Mayor that it was compulsory to indicate some park for the location of the bath, as no latitude for a choice was given by the mandatory law on public baths.



In justice to his Honor, the Committee should state that the law on public baths being mandatory, it was necessary to select some park, and Tompkins Square seemed the most desirable.

The proposed building for Tompkins Square would have provided for more than a bath, as it contemplated a public laundry and a public comfort station. From a description of the plans and the front elevation, it will be noted that such a building would have been an architectural addition to any city as well as serving the special object for which it was designed.

The law being mandatory with reference to the location of baths in the public parks only, and as there was no public park in which a bath could be constructed that would meet the wants of that portion of the tenement-house population for which these baths were eminently intended, it was seen that no further action could be taken without additional legislation, which would allow the purchase of property by the city or the securing of proper locations by condemnation proceedings.

#### *Plans for Underground Public Comfort Stations.*

The Committee has given the subject of lavatories or places of public comfort much thought, and the Chairman of the Committee has made personal study and inspection of the lavatory systems of the cities of Europe and England. It is firmly believed that when the American public are conversant with the latest practice on the subject they will not be behind Europe in their introduction, especially as it is contrary to law for the public servants of the city to frequent, while on duty, drinking places, about the only places now providing conveniences for public comfort.

In our opinion the most approved system is the underground "latrines" as now adopted by the City of London; they are clean, inodorous, hidden from view, and attractive, and frequented by all ranks of society, and are provided for both men and women in separate places. It is customary to make a charge of a penny for the use of the closets, and two pence for the use of towels and soap in the lavatories, the urinals being free. With the small charge these places are quite self-supporting, and your Committee asks that the experimental places suggested may be carried on in all particulars as far as possible as are those in London in the matter of management.

The report of the City of London Commissioners of Sewers shows the working of ten establishments in the small area of the City of London, which has a day population of 262,000, as follows:

Situation and Date of Opening.	Cost of Construction.	Accommodation.		Week-days, open		Sundays, open	Atten- dants.	Year ending Dec. 31, 1892.					
		Urinals	W. C.	a. m.	p. m.			Receipts.					
								£	s. d.	£	s. d.		
Royal Exchange, Jan. 23, 1885.....	3025	8	8	20	12	8 to 10	9 to 8	489	15	9	478	19	0
Eastcheap, Oct. 22, 1886.....	1236	14	11	9	4	6 to 11	9 to 11	354	16	10	302	19	11
Farringdon Street, Oct. 22, 1886.....	1467	11	6	9	5	7 to 12.30	9 to 11	282	14	11	322	2	8
New Bridge Street, June 8, 1888.....	1547	18	11	8	5	7 to 12.30	9 to 11	452	1	11	317	8	10
Leadenhall Market, April 12, 1889.....	778	1	8	12	2	5 to 9	Closed	154	3	0	216	15	3
South Place, July 26, 1889.....	1349	10	7	9	5	7 to 12.30	9 to 11	340	0	2	302	17	7
Old Bailey, June 13, 1890.....	1490	2	3	8	5	7 to 12.30	9 to 11	275	16	3	303	16	11
Bishopsgate Street Without, May 30, 1892.....	1671	5	11	9	5	7 to 12.30	9 to 11	111	5	4	157	11	11
Lothbury, Aug 1, 1892.....	1453	9	2	13	*4	7 to 11	Closed	55	19	9	110	7	11
Holborn (for men and women), Aug. 22, 1893.....	3000†	0	0	12	*8	7 to 12.30	9 to 11	..	..	..	..	..	..

† About.

\* And Lavatories.

Since then latrines have been opened at Crutched Friars, Aldgate, Billingsgate Market and Cannon Street, all in the city area. The last named latrine cost £2389.

It appears from the latest published returns that the receipts and expenditures for three years ending December, 1892, when nine conveniences only were in use, were as follows:

Receipts .....	£6,752
Expenditures (including gas, wages, water, repairs, etc.) .....	£6,944

It will be seen that these conveniences are almost self-supporting, and it is hoped in the course of time that they will become a source of profit, besides paying interest on capital outlay.

Another great advantage of these underground latrines is that the old-fashioned and unsightly conveniences are gradually disappearing from the streets. In addition to water-closet accommodations these conveniences provide free urinals. It is estimated that 9,000,000 use the urinals per annum, and 697,300 the water-closets. Their economy, efficiency and utility, must therefore be manifest, and the Commissioners' efforts fully appreciated.

Your Committee suggests that two underground places of public comfort be built; one at the south end of the City Hall Park, and one at the small park between Broadway and Sixth Avenue, and between Thirty-second and Thirty-third Streets.

These will serve as object lessons. If as successful as those in London, we believe many more will be built in other locations, as necessity may suggest, being almost hidden from view, light, clean and thoroughly ventilated and, if cared for as they are in London, they will soon commend themselves to the common sense of the public.

To meet the wants of the public where underground places may not be available, the Committee presents plans for urinals with self-flushing apparatus, to be placed on properties belonging to the city, or which may be acquired for the purpose, but most earnestly recommends that the underground places of public comfort be used wherever practicable, to the exclusion of all other kinds. Experience demonstrates that it takes

some small time before these places are fully appreciated by the public, but it is merely a question of time.

With the exception of the provisions made by the saloons in New York City there is practically no provision for public comfort stations outside of the few shelters in the public parks.

**Park  
Shelters.**

July 10, 1895, a formal request was made to the Committee by the Board of Health, in accordance with the following resolution:

"That the Committee appointed by His Honor the Mayor, on Public Baths, Lavatories, etc., be and is hereby requested to prepare plans for public lavatories and water-closets in the streets and public places in this city for the accommodation of women as well as men, and for additional accommodations in the public parks."

The Committee at once instructed the architects to prepare plans and studies for underground public comfort stations, as well as those to be located under the elevated stations and within the area line of buildings on the sidewalk. The plans were submitted and, after a conference with President Wilson, several changes were made in order that his ideas might be embodied. The Board of Health referred the matter to a special committee, which in turn reported to the Board, and October 2, 1895, the following communication was received:

William Howe Tolman, Ph. D.,

Secretary, 105 East Twenty-second Street, New York.

Sir:—At a meeting of the Board of Health of the Health Department, held October 1st, 1895, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That this Board approves of the report submitted by the Mayor's Committee on Public Baths, Water-closets and Urinals, and the accompanying plans made by Cady, Berg & See, architects and engineers, and recommends that the President appoint a committee of one from this Board to obtain the necessary funds, and to procure one hundred of these stations at once, and to select and lease the necessary sites.

**Plans  
Approved.**

Resolved, That the Mayor's Committee be requested to submit the necessary working drawings, specifications and estimates for one hundred such stations.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Board communicate with the Board of Commissioners of Public Parks and request them to



co-operate with the Mayor's Committee and this Board in carrying out the suggestions contained in the report, relating to stations in the smaller and larger parks.

Resolved, That Commissioner George B. Fowler be and is hereby appointed a committee of one, under the above resolution, to represent this Board.

(Signed) EMMONS CLARK,

Secretary.

A True Copy.

Commissioner Fowler manifested his great interest in the matter by meeting with the Committee and frequent consultations with the architects, in order that the whole matter might receive careful attention. The Committee was particularly anxious to make provisions for the comfort of public servants, especially the policemen, when early in October the Secretary was authorized to present to Commissioner Roosevelt the following statement:

It is proposed ultimately to establish on each policeman's post a station containing a water-closet and urinal. For the immediate present, however, only one hundred of these stations will be put in various parts of the city, experimentally.

**Experiment  
Stations.**

The stations will be built of iron, roofed over, and so arranged that where placed against the side walls of buildings no part of the interior can be seen from the windows or any part of the house. They will be entered from the street side. Where they cannot be placed against houses, they will be placed on street corners of wide streets or under elevated railroad stairs. The height from sidewalk to top of cornice in each case will be eight feet six inches. The width of each station—or the projection out from the house—will be four feet. The length of each station or the part coming against the brick wall of the house, will be six feet ten inches, where the station contains both a water-closet and a urinal, or four feet four inches where it contains a urinal or water-closet only.

The stations will be so arranged that they cannot possibly become a nuisance to property owners. Where stations are placed against the brick walls of houses, inside of the area line, the City would pay a moderate rental. Where the owner of the property would be willing also to keep the station clean, the City would pay an additional amount for such service. Each roundsman should ascertain—

**Available  
Sites.**

First. How many available sites there are on his post where



a combined water-closet and urinal station (six feet ten inches long) could be placed against a house, inside of the area line, where the landlord would not object. He also should report with the site the annual rent demanded, and whether the landlord is willing to keep the station clean and the annual cost thereof.

Second. Report similarly available sites for urinal stations only (four feet four inches long), yearly rent demanded, and if willing to keep same clean, yearly compensation for such service.

Third. Report available street corners where a combined water-closet and urinal station (four feet wide by six feet ten inches long), placed near the curb, would not obstruct pedestrians.

Fourth. Report available street corners where urinal stations only (four feet wide and four feet four inches long) could be placed near the curb without obstructing pedestrians.

Fifth. Report all available sites where combined water-closet and urinal station (four feet wide and six feet ten inches long, eight feet six inches high) can be placed under elevated railroad stairs.

October 8, the Committee, in compliance with the resolution of the Board of Health, passed at the meeting on October 1, accepting their report and plans, requested Messrs. Cady, Berg & See to prepare the necessary working drawings and specifications for each of the four varieties of public comfort stations called for by the Board of Health.

April 22, 1895, a conference was called by Mayor Strong between the Committee and the Commissioner of Public Works, to whom the building of the public comfort stations was entrusted, in accordance with the last law. General Collis expressed himself as satisfied with the studies of the Committee, and signified his willingness to avail himself of the services of the Committee's architects, and requested the necessary recommendations, in order that he in turn could secure the necessary authorization from the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

**Conference.**

May 18 the plans and studies were submitted to the Commissioner at his office, at which meeting the plans were accepted by him.

At a meeting of the Board of Estimate held in July the plans were subjected to a criticism by Commissioner Styles, of the Park Department, and, on motion of the Comptroller, the whole matter of underground public comfort stations was referred to the Parks Department, with a request that they should report to the Board of Estimate.

In connection with the building for the proposed bath in Tompkins Square, provisions would have been made for two wings, one containing sixteen water-closets, twenty urinals and three washbasins for men, and the other, fourteen water-closets and four washbasins for women.

Greeley  
Square.

In the recommended underground public comfort stations, one in the City Hall Park, the other in the small park in Greeley Square, the plans submitted provide for making these stations of masonry so far as practicable. The ceilings to be entirely of masonry work, so as to avoid the expansion and contraction of iron beams, and the consequent possibility of dampness and leaks.

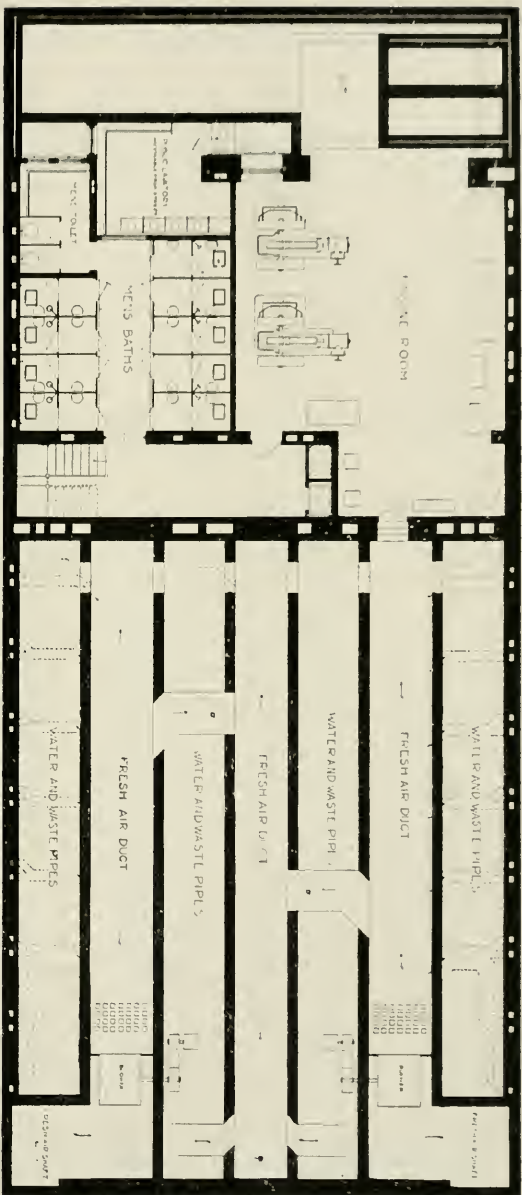
The ceilings of these stations will be kept well down, as shown on the sections, so as to leave sufficient height above to fill in with earth and loam, so as to be able to retain the appearance of the park, and not lose any of the verdure or breathing space now existing. Each station will, of course, be made thoroughly damp-proof and watertight. The entrances for men and women will be located at opposite points of the parks as shown on the plan, and will be screened by shrubbery and ornamental iron railings, which will also run around the park.

The ventilation will be by means of electric exhaust fans, which will draw the air from every water-closet bowl, as well as from over every water-closet and urinal. It is then blown out through an ornamental shaft, on top of which an electric light will be placed.

In connection with this station will be a room for the male and female attendant, also rooms for coal and heating apparatus. Where the sewer level would be above the plumbing fixtures, these will discharge into a tight cesspool sunk below the floor, and the matter in the latter will be pumped out and into the sewer at regular intervals. A small electric pump will be provided for this purpose.

The walls, like those in the bathhouses, will be of light glazed brick, the partitions of water-closets similar to those of the baths, all wired glass, and all arranged to avoid dust and to give the utmost light and cleanliness to the place.

It should be stated that this wired glass is sufficiently opaque to provide proper privacy.

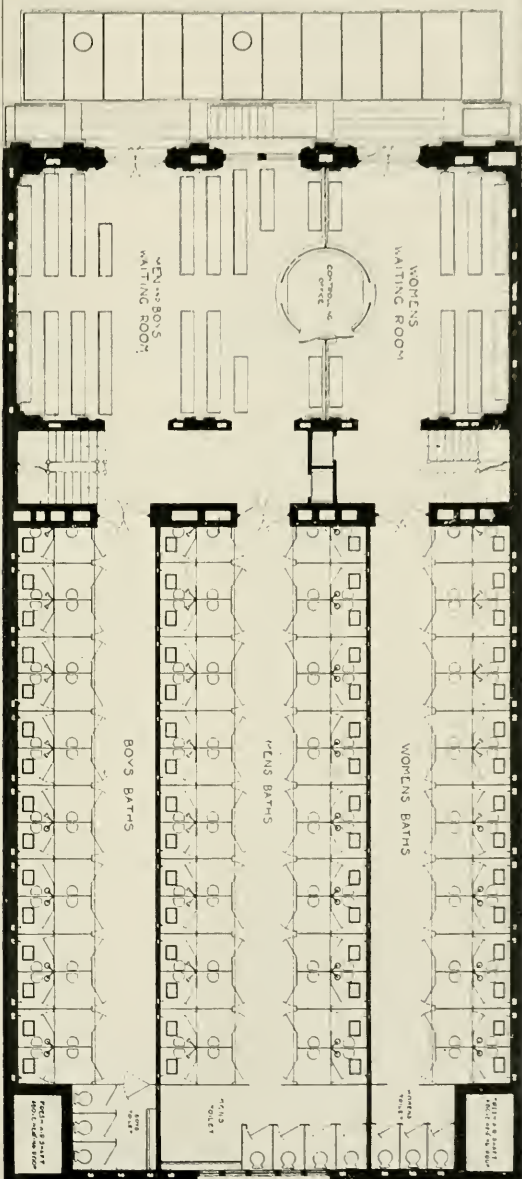


PLAN OF BASEMENT FLOOR.

CADY, BROWN & SONS  
ARCHITECTS  
315 WEST 17th ST. N.Y.C.

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SCALE OF FEET

# PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR

CADY BROS. & SONS  
ARCHITECTS  
31 EAST 17th ST. N.Y.C.

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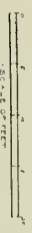
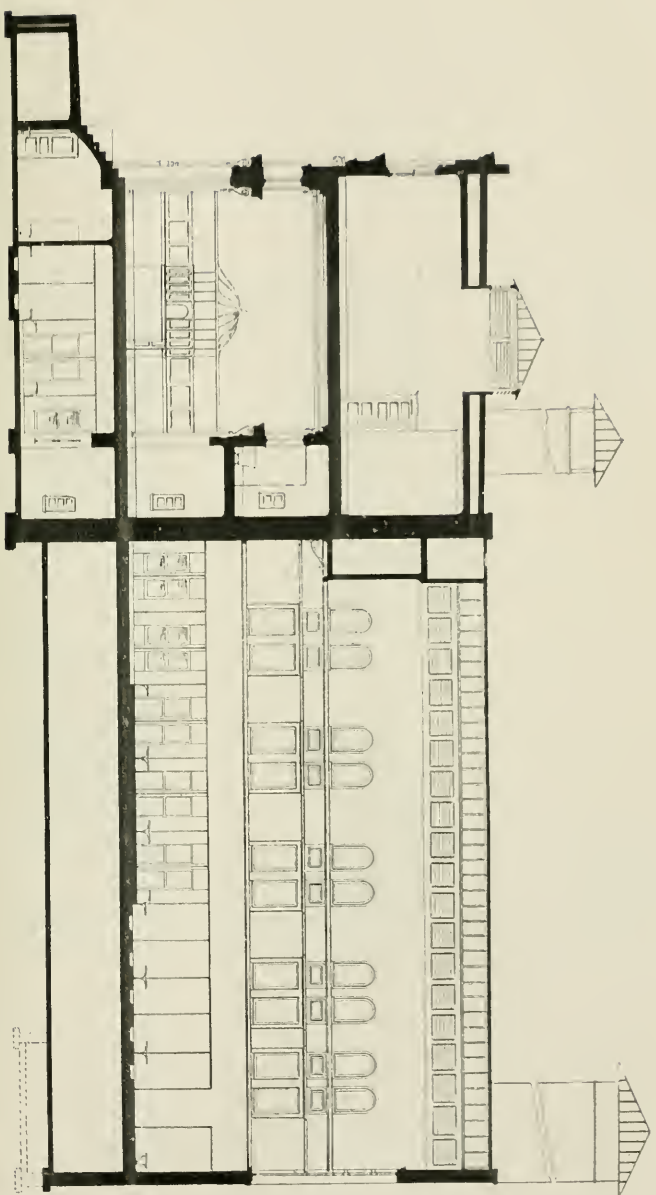


PLAN OF UPPER FLOOR.

CADY, BERG & SELL  
ARCHITECTS  
3 EAST 77th ST NYC

P.L.K.N. OF MLLZAN.M. 1,000



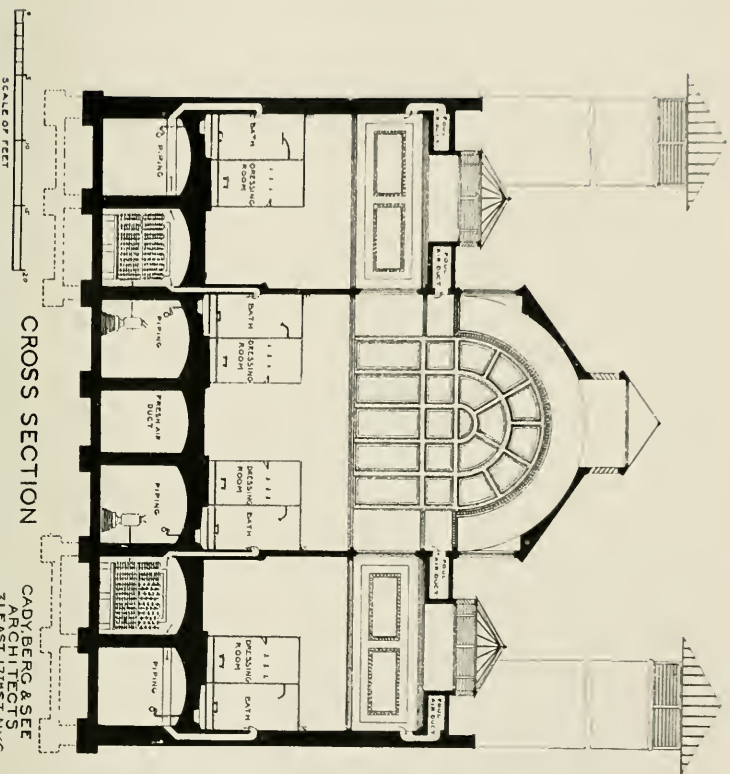


LONGITUDINAL SECTION

CADY, BERG & SIE  
 ARCHITECTS  
 31 BAY 17-20-21 AV







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## CHAPTER XIII.

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Posen (Germany).—Plans, elevations and section of proposed octagonal people's douche bath. Plans, elevation and sections of conveniences for men and women, two in 1890, one in 1892 and one on the old market place. Plan of urinal on the Sapielsa-Platz.

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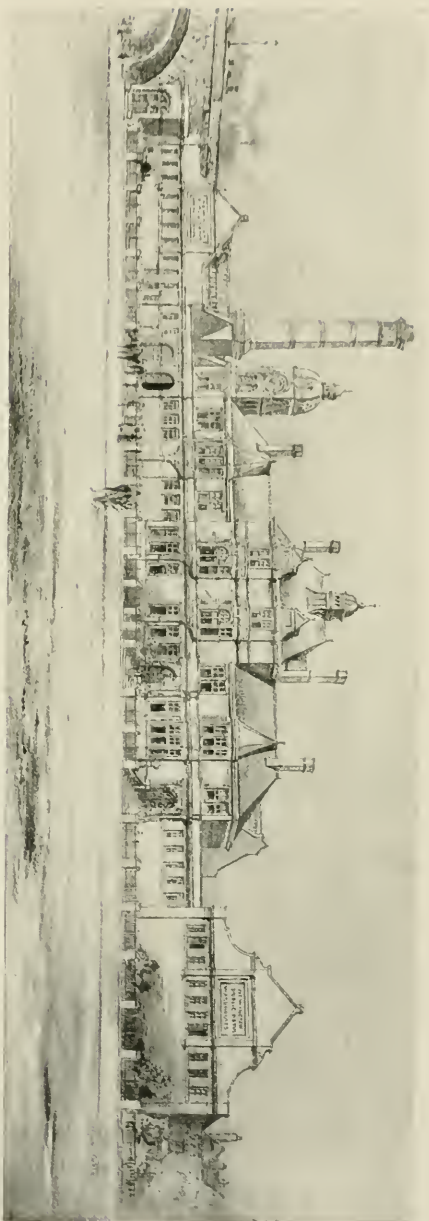
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# INDEX.

- Accommodation in proposed bath 100x 50, 165;—of proposed bath in Tompkins Square, 170.
- Aldermen, Board of, given power to grant permits for newspaper stands, 149.
- Altona, chalets for ladies, 159;—school baths at, 58.
- Amateur, definition of, 48;—Swimming Association, 48;—Swimming Association, Southern Counties, 47.
- Andrews, A. D., Commissioner Police Department, letter from, 148.
- Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, 54;—baths of, 26, 36;—co-operation of, 6;—erects bathhouse, 5.
- Astor, John Jacob, on 1866 Committee of Sanitary Inquiry, 142.
- Astor Place convenience, care of, transferred to Public Works Department, 144;—public comfort station, 143.
- Augustus, age of, public baths, 6.
- Austrian conveniences, 162.
- Baruch, Dr. Simon, 54.
- Bates, H. Montague, Principal Clerk to the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London, 7.
- Bathers, number of, at floating baths, 36.
- Bathhouse Commissioners, Municipal, 30.
- Bathing and Washing Association, People's, 26;—Association, Metropolitan, of the City of New York, 27;—habit growing, 17.
- Bath Legislation regarding New York City, 26.
- Baths and Comfort Stations, organization of Mayor's Committee on, 25.
- Baths and Washhouses Act, England, 26, 45;—floating, 52;—floating, authorized, 27;—floating, cost of, 35;—floating, first two erected, 27;—floating, location of, 35;—floating, number of bathers, 36;—floating, regulations of, 35;—number of persons having access to, 17;—per family in the Fifteenth Assembly District, 19;—provision for, inadequate in American cities, 68;—public, should be paid for, 164;—slipper, 45.
- Belmont, August, on 1866 Committee of Sanitary Inquiry, 142.
- Berlin, Germany, city public baths, 106;—cost of water at Moabit baths, 107;—douche baths at public baths, 116;—Moabit baths, 108;—number of bathers at city public baths, 108;—number of river bathers, 104;—original outlay on city public baths, 106;—public baths, 103, 133;—receipts and expenditures at river baths, 103, 104;—receipts and working expenditure of city public baths, 107;—river baths, 104;—scale of charges at river baths, 105;—Schillingsbrücke baths, 109;—Society for People's Baths, 111;—Swimming League, 109;—urinals and conveniences, 159.
- Bibliography, 181.
- Bill giving monopoly of public conveniences, 148;—to make public conveniences mandatory, 144.
- Billings, E., on Boston Bath Committee, 63.
- Birmingham, England, attendance of bathers, 71, 72;—baths, rules and regulations, 128;—cost of baths, 73;—public baths, 68;—public conveniences for women, 157;—receipts and expenditures of public baths, 69, 70;—scale of charges, 74;—Turkish bath, 121.
- Blomfield House Swimming Club, 50.
- Board of Aldermen given power to grant permits for newspaper stands, 149.
- Board of Commissioners of Public Parks requested to co-operate with Mayor's Committee, 177.
- Board of Estimate and Apportionment, 179;—and bath appropriation, 30;—and Mayor's Committee, 169;—and public baths, 31.
- Board of Health, 179;—and life-saving apparatus, 44;—and public baths, 28, 31;—approves plans for bathhouse, 6, 64;—approves public comfort stations, 6, 177;—demands increase of urinals, 144;—Metropolitan, and public urinals, 142;—Metropolitan, engineer reports on urinals, 143;—pleads for establishment of free public baths and washhouses, 27;—recommends warm

- baths, 28;—reports universal patronage of free baths, 27;—requests plans for public conveniences, 177;—to determine number of public baths, 163.
- Bootle baths, how managed, 121.
- Boston, Bath Committee appointed, 6;—baths in public school, 59;—Charlesbank Gymnasium, free baths at, 62;—public baths, 28, 63;—Y. M. C. A. Gymnasium shower bath, 54.
- Bradford baths, how managed, 121;—swimming club, 50;—Turkish bath, 121;—urinals, 157.
- Brighton, lavatories, receipts and expenses, 158.
- Brookfield, William, Commissioner of Public Works, 35.
- Brookline public bath, 63.
- Brooklyn, baths first authorized, 29.
- Brunswick, school baths at, 59;—urinals and conveniences, 159.
- Bryant, Sanitary Inspector J. D. (1873), 28.
- Buffalo, municipal baths, 61.
- "Bureau of Public Comfort," 24.
- Burnley baths, how managed, 121;—conveniences, 158;—swimming clubs, 49.
- Burns, Charles De F., Secretary Department of Public Parks, letter from, 145.
- Cady, Berg & See, architects and engineers, 6, 165, 177;—architects of Mayor's Committee, 163, 169;—prepare plans for baths, 169;—requested to prepare drawings of public comfort stations, 179.
- Cady, J. C., & Co., architects, 23.
- Capacity of baths on site 100x50, planned by the Mayor's Committee, 165.
- Carlisle and Washington Streets, vicinity recommended for public bath, 24, 164.
- Carlsruhe, school baths at, 58.
- Caution money from washers, 135, 136.
- Charges for baths in England, 132.
- Charities and Corrections, President of the Department of, a Municipal Bathhouse Commissioner, 30.
- Charlesbank Gymnasium, Boston, free baths at, 62.
- Chatham Square, vicinity recommended for public bath, 24, 164.
- Chemnitz baths, 133;—conveniences, 160.
- Chicago, Carter H. Harrison bath, 66;—Douglas Park Natatorium and Gymnasium, 66;—Municipal Order League, 66;—swimming bath, 52.
- Cholera affects use of Hamburg baths, 133;—as affecting bath water, 116.
- Citizens' Association of New York, 142.
- City and Suburban Homes Company, 20.
- City Hall Park, as site for underground public comfort stations, 6, 169, 176, 180;—public urinal, 143.
- City Vigilance League petitions for public conveniences, 144.
- Civil Service examinations favored by Committee of Seventy, 21.
- Clarence Swimming Club, 50.
- Clark, Emmons, Secretary of the Health Department, letters from, 165, 177.
- Classes, different, in baths, 131.
- Clubs, swimming, 47.
- Collis, Gen. C. H. T., Commissioner of Public Works, approves plans for public baths in Tompkins Square, 6;—confers with Mayor's Committee, 163, 179.
- Comfort stations, should be partly free, 24.
- Commissioner of Public Parks, and structures for public comfort, 32.
- Commissioner of Public Works, 29;—and public baths, 31, 35;—confers with Mayor's Committee, 163, 179;—in charge of public convenience, 144.
- Commissioners of Sewers of City of London, report on public conveniences, 175.
- Committee of Seventy, disbandment, 24;—expresses appreciation of Sub-Committee's study, 24;—genesis of, 21;—nominates committee of five, 22;—organization of Sub-Committee, 22;—platform of, 21.
- Common Council to regulate use of floating baths, 27.
- Company for Hygienic Purposes, Dresden. 160;—Hamburg, 160.
- Comparison of attendance at swimming and slipper baths, England, 45.
- Competitions, swimming, 49.
- Comptroller and bath appropriation, 33;—moves to refer plans of comfort stations to Park Department, 179.
- Cooper, Hon. S. L., Commissioner of Public Works, Yonkers, 61.
- Coventry, England, public baths, 128.
- Cox, Job, Superintendent and Engineer of the Baths Department, City of Birmingham, 7.
- Cracow, no conveniences, 162.
- Croton Aqueduct Department, 144;—and public urinal, 143.

- Croydon, expenses of urinals, 158.
- Death rate affected by lack of public conveniences, 142.
- De Fossez, Alexander, and public conveniences, 149;—bill, 150.
- De Milt Dispensary, baths of the, 42.
- Department of Docks and location of baths, 35;—public conveniences, 144;—to assign location of baths, 28.
- Department of Public Charities, baths at, 42.
- Department of Public Parks and site for bath, 33;—and structures for public comfort, 32;—erects urinals in city parks, 144;—provision of public conveniences, 145.
- Department of Public Works, 29;—to control floating baths, 28;—to take charge of Astor Place convenience, 144.
- Design of proposed bath on site 100x 50, 168;—public convenience, 180;—Tompkins Square proposed baths, 172.
- Docks and water fronts, improvement of, favored by Committee of Seventy, 22;—life-saving apparatus at, 44;—Department of, and location of baths, 35;—and public conveniences, 144;—location of baths, 28.
- Dolphin Swimming Club, Bradford, 49.
- Douche baths at Hamburg, 115.
- Douches provided at swimming baths, 45.
- Dresden, Company for Hygienic Purposes, 160;—public conveniences, 160.
- Drexel, Joseph O., of Tenement House Commission of 1884, 16.
- Drinking fountains recommended by Tenement House Committee of 1894, 19.
- Drowning, lives lost in New York City in '93-'95, 43.
- Drying by hot air in motion, 135.
- Dunkirk, movement for public baths, 62.
- Easterbrook, William P., of Tenement House Commission of 1884, 16.
- East River, location for floating bath, 29.
- East Side Park, location for bath, 33.
- Economy Inspection, Leipzig, 161.
- Edinburgh, Scotland, charges for swimming lessons, 46;—public bath, 100;—scale of charges, 100;—washhouses, 135.
- Eisenhower, Chief, of the Philadelphia Bureau of City Property, 53.
- Elections, separation of State and Municipal, favored by the Committee of Seventy, 22.
- Eleventh Avenue and Fifty-eighth Street, vicinity recommended for public bath, 24, 164.
- Emergency and Hygiene Association, Massachusetts, maintains Charlesbank Gymnasium, 63.
- England, charges for baths, 122;—different classes of baths, 121;—Local Government Board and public bath loans, 121;—provides public urinals, 150;—public bath legislation, 120;—the shower bath, 64.
- English Baths and Washhouses Act, 26, 45, 120.
- Essex Market, vicinity recommended for public bath, 24, 164.
- Estimate and Apportionment, Board of, 179;—and bath appropriation, 30;—and Mayor's Committee, 169;—and public baths, 31.
- European models of baths, 165.
- Faure, John P., Secretary of Committee of Seventy, and of St. John's Guild, 22;—selects Sub-Committee on Baths and Lavatories, 22.
- Federation of Churches and Christian Workers in New York City, 19;—rent statistics of, 20.
- Fifteenth Assembly District, baths per family in, 19;—parks urgently needed, 20;—public baths and lavatories urgently demanded in, 20;—rent per room in, 20.
- Fifth Ward, floating bath to be located in, 29.
- Fifty-eighth Street and Eleventh Avenue, vicinity recommended for public bath, 24, 164.
- Fish, Hamilton, on Committee of Sanitary Inquiry, 142.
- Floating Hospital, St. John's Guild, baths of the, 42.
- Fowler, Commissioner George B., of the Health Department, 178.
- Frankfort-on-Main baths, 115.
- Free public baths an imperative necessity in New York, 9.
- Gegenstrom bath fixtures, 59;—system of heating water, 167, 172.
- German baths, how managed, 133;—conveniences, model for Austrian, 162;—system of heating water, 167, 172.
- Germany, public conveniences, 159;—spray bath in, 54.
- Gilder, Richard Watson, Chairman Tenement House Committee of 1894, 17.



- Glasgow, Scotland, deficit provided from assessments, 103;—number of bathers and washers, 103;—public baths, 100;—receipts and expenditures at baths, 102, 103;—scale of charges at baths, 102;—temperature as affecting receipts at baths, 103;—washhouses, 101, 102.
- Gothenburg, average operating expenses of baths, 118;—baths, how managed, 133;—cost of public baths, 116; Majorna baths, number of bathers, 119;—public baths, 116;—receipts and operating expenses of public baths, 117;—Renstromska Badanstalten, number of bathers, 118;—urinals and conveniences, 162.
- Göttingen, baths in the public schools, 56.
- Graz, Austria, public conveniences, 162.
- Greeley Square as site for underground public comfort station, 6, 169, 176, 180.
- Hamburg, Germany, baths, how managed, 133;—cholera affects use of baths, 113;—Company for Hygienic Purposes, 160;—Elmsbützel baths, 114;—Patriotic Society, 113;—receipts and expenses of baths, 114;—river baths, 112;—scale of charges at baths, 115;—Schaarmarkt baths, 113;—Schweinemarkt baths, 113;—St. Pauli douche baths, 115, 116;—swimming baths at, 64;—temperature of baths, 114;—urinals and conveniences, 160;—water boiled on account of cholera, 116.
- Hamilton, William Gaston, 7;—Vice-President of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, 22;—Chairman Sub-Committee on Baths and Lavatories, 22;—Chairman Mayor's Committee on Baths and Comfort Stations, 25, 163.
- Harrison, Carter H., Bath of Chicago, 66.
- Hartwell, Dr. E. M., Director of physical training in the Boston public schools, 59, 63, 64.
- Havre-des-Pas, Jersey, bathing establishment, 51.
- Health, Board of, 179;—and life-saving apparatus, 44;—and public baths, 23, 31;—approves plans of Mayor's Committee, 164, 177;—demands increase of urinals, 144;—pleads for establishment of free public baths and washhouses, 27;—recommends warm baths, 28;—reports universal patronage of free baths, 27;—requests plans for public conveniences, 177;—to determine number of public baths, 163.
- Health Department approves plans of Mayor's Committee, 177;—letter from, 164;—report on baths in lodging houses, 13.
- Health, Metropolitan Board of, and public urinals, 142;—engineer reports on public urinals, 143.
- Health Laws, thoroughness recommended by Committee of Seventy, 21.
- Heating and ventilating proposed bath 100x50, 167;—Tompkins Square proposed bath, 172.
- Hebrew Sheltering Orphan Asylum, baths in, 23.
- Hedges, Job E., letter from, 25.
- Hemenway Gymnasium, Harvard University, shower room, 54.
- Hicks, Coroner, of London, 47.
- Hirsch, Baron de, Fund Baths, 41.
- Hodgman, Abbott, of Tenement House Commission of 1884, 16.
- Home rule and public conveniences, 149.
- Houston, Dr. Edwin J., President of the National Swimming Association, 53.
- Hudson River, location for floating bath, 29.
- Humane Society, care for cases of drowning, 44.
- Jaffray, Edward S., on 1866 Committee of Sanitary Inquiry, 142.
- Jersey Swimming Club, 50, 51.
- Kehew, Mrs. M. M., on Boston Bath Committee, 63.
- King, David H., Jr., 22.
- Kiosks as public conveniences, 149.
- La Collette bathing place, Jersey, 51.
- Laibach, Austria, urinals and conveniences, 162.
- Lassar, Prof., 110.
- Laundries, how administered, 134;—scale of charges, 136.
- Laundry in proposed bath, 100x50, 167;—in proposed bath in Tompkins Square, 174;—money-taker's daily account, 140;—municipal, advantages of, 141.
- Lavatories, charges made, 19;—in foreign cities, 19;—public, recommended by Tenement House Committee of 1894, 19;—urgently demanded in Fifteenth Assembly District, 20.
- Leary, William, Secretary Department of Public Parks, letter from, 146.

- Legislation, bath, regarding New York City, 26;—on public baths, 6;—on public conveniences, 143.
- Legislature, petitioned for public conveniences, 144.
- Leipzig, Germany, conveniences, 161;—Economy Inspection, 161;—urinals and conveniences, 160.
- Letter carriers affected by lack of public conveniences, 148.
- Life-saving apparatus at docks, 44;—demonstration, 49;—Newman's method, 127;—Society, 47.
- Liverpool, England, Burroughs Garden washhouse, 135;—cost and accommodation of bathing establishments, 77;—Frederick Street washhouse, 135;—free open air swimming bath, 78;—Lodge Lane washhouse, 135;—number of bathers during the year 1895, 178;—public baths, 74;—receipts and expenditures of baths for 1895, 78;—St. George's baths, 120;—washhouses, 134;—washhouse charges, 136;—washhouses, number using, 141;—washhouses, rules and regulations, 138.
- Loans for public baths in England, 121.
- Lodging-house of Department of Public Charities, baths at, 42;—patrons, majority dirty and unclean, 13.
- Lodging-houses, baths in, 13;—baths in, reasons for not using, 16.
- London, England, Association for Promoting Cleanliness Among the People, 120;—baths, deficit, how paid, 123;—baths, how managed, 121;—baths in George Street, Euston Square, 120;—Bishop of (1846), and public baths, 120;—Lord Mayor and public baths, 120;—municipal baths in 1892, 10;—New River Water Company and public baths, 120;—particulars of baths and washhouses in operation, 79;—public conveniences, 150;—Public Health Act, 151;—School Board encourages swimming, 46;—Schools Swimming Association, 47;—Schools Swimming Association demonstrates life-saving methods, 49;—very cheap baths in the poorer quarters, 17;—Vestries and public baths, 121.
- LONDON, ENGLAND :—  
 Battersea public baths, 47.  
 Bow, number of bathers, 81;—public baths, 80;—working expenses and receipts of public baths, 81.  
 Chelsea public baths, 82;—public conveniences, 153;—receipts and expenditures of public baths, 82;—receipts and expenses of public conveniences, 153.  
 City, Commissioners of Sewers' report on public conveniences, 175;—public conveniences, 175;—underground latrines, 174.  
 Greenwich public baths, 82.  
 Islington, charges at public baths, 85;—expenses of public urinals, 152;—Hornsey Road bath, 50;—Hornsey Road washhouse, 124;—loans for baths, 121, 122;—loans for public conveniences, 152;—number of bathers, 1893-5, 85;—number of washers, 1894 and 1895, 85;—original cost of public baths, 84;—public baths, 83;—receipts and payments of public conveniences, 152;—underground conveniences, 150;—working expenses and receipts of baths, 1894-5, 84.  
 Kensington, charges at public baths, 86;—laundry, 86;—number of bathers, 1892-6, 87;—receipts and expenses of public baths, 1895-96, 86, 87.  
 Lewisham, number of bathers, 1895-96, 89;—public baths, 87;—receipts and expenses for 1895-6, 88;—scale of charges, 89.  
 Marylebone public baths, 89.  
 Paddington, number of bathers and washers, 90;—public baths, 90;—receipts and expenditures for 1895-96, 90;—Turkish baths, 120.  
 Poplar, number of bathers and washers, 92;—public baths, 91;—receipts and expenditures for 1894-96, 91.  
 Shoreditch, public conveniences, 157.  
 St. George, Hanover Square, Buckingham Palace Road baths, 49;—number of bathers and washers, 1893-5, 93;—public baths, 92;—public conveniences, 154;—receipts and expenses for 1894-5, 92;—scale of charges, 93.  
 St. Giles-in-the Fields and St. George, Bloomsbury, number of bathers and washers, 1893-4, 94;—public baths, 93;—public conveniences, 155;—receipts and expenses for 1893-4, 93;—scale of charges, 94.  
 St. James, Westminster, laundry statistics, 97;—number of bathers, 1893 and 1894, 96;—public baths, 94, 123;—receipts and working expenses, 1893 and 1894, 96;—scale of charges, 96;—washhouse, 135.



- St. Martin-in-the-Fields, public baths, 97;—public conveniences, 156;—receipts and expenses for 1893, 97.
- St. Pancras, Fitzroy baths, 50.
- Strand District Board of Works, public conveniences, 157.
- Westminster, application for special ticket book, 132;—certificate of proficiency in swimming, 126;—public baths, 47, 50, 97;—rules and regulations for bathers, 123;—rules and regulations for washers, 136;—scale of charges, 99;—special ticket holders, 126, 127;—washer's ticket, 141;—washhouse charges, 136;—water chute, 126.
- Whitechapel, number of bathers and washers, 99;—public baths, 99, 120;—receipts and expenses of public baths, 99, 100.
- Lowe, Dr. Julia, of Chicago, 66.
- Marshall, Edward, Secretary Tenement House Committee of 1894, 17.
- Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association, maintains Charlesbank Gymnasium, 63.
- Massachusetts public bath laws, 63.
- Mayor of New York, a Municipal Bathhouse Commissioner, 30.
- Mayor's Committee on Public Baths and Public Comfort Stations, confers with Commissioner of Public Works, 168;—organization of, 25;—prepares plans for comfort stations, 177;—report delayed, 9;—requested to submit plans for baths, 163.
- Metropolitan Bathing Association in the City of New York, 27.
- Metropolitan Board of Health and public urinals, 142;—reports on public urinals, 143.
- Meyer, Chief Engineer Andreas, of Hamburg, 7.
- Milan, public comfort stations, 162.
- Minturn, the late Robert B., and public baths, 27.
- Morris, Moreau, M. D., 7;—Medical Inspector, ex-Tenement House Commissioner (1884), 22;—Secretary of Tenement House Commission of 1884, 16;—Vice-Chairman Mayor's Committee on Baths and Comfort Stations, 25, 163.
- Morris, Sanitary Inspector Stuyvesant F. (1873), 28.
- Mott Street, bathing institution in, 26.
- Munich, school baths at, 58;—urinals and conveniences, 161.
- Municipal Bathhouse Commissioners, 30.
- Municipal bathing establishments recommended by Tenement House Committee of 1894, 18;—laundry, advantages of, 141.
- Municipal Order League of Chicago, 66.
- Myers, M. W., on Boston Bath Committee, 63.
- National Swimming Association, 53.
- Newark, N. J., public bath, 67.
- Newman, Charles, Superintendent Westminster baths, London, 47.
- New York City behind European cities in provision of public baths, 9;—baths in public schools, 60;—number of persons compelled to use the same water-closet or privy, 12, 13;—number of persons to a bathroom, 12;—public baths of, 35;—slums, baths in, 11;—the first spray bath, 5.
- New York Juvenile Asylum, 54.
- Noonan, Alderman, introduces resolution on public conveniences, 149.
- Novice, definition of, 48.
- O'Donohue, Joseph, of Tenement House Commission of 1884, 16.
- Oil closure system for urinals, 159, 160, 161, 162.
- One Hundred and Tenth Street and Second Avenue, vicinity recommended for public bath, 24, 164.
- Ottendorfer, Oswald, of Tenement House Commission of 1884, 16.
- Otter Swimming Club, London, 48, 49.
- Park, East Side, location for bath, 33;—public, as location for baths mandatory, 174.
- Parks, Board of Commissioners of Public, requested to confer with Mayor's Committee, 177.
- Parks, city, area in acres, 146;—small, favored by the Committee of Seventy, 21;—urgently needed in Fifteenth Assembly District, 20.
- Parks, Commissioners of Public, and structures for public comfort, 32.
- Parks, Department of Public and site for bath, 33;—and structures for public comfort, 32;—erects urinals in city parks, 144;—plans of comfort stations referred to, 179;—President of, 33;—provision of public conveniences, 145.
- Paton, John, President Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, 36.
- People's Bathing and Washing Association, 26.
- People's Baths, 5, 22, 23, 37, 54, 165;—

- model for Yonkers, 61;—number of bathers, 33;—receipts and expenses, 39.
- Permissive act to establish free public baths, 30.
- Persoun, School Director, of Göttingen, 57.
- Philadelphia, bath houses, 52;—plans for public bath, 65;—Public Baths Association of, 65.
- Plugree, Miss, on Boston Bath Committee, 63.
- Plans and studies approved by city authorities, 6;—drawings and photographs, 193;—for public baths, 31.
- Platform of Committee of Seventy, 21.
- Police Department and lack of public conveniences, 148.
- Policemen affected by lack of public conveniences, 148.
- Portsmouth Swimming Club, 50.
- Posen, Germany, public conveniences, 161;—school baths at, 58.
- Preliminary Report Sub-Committee on Baths and Lavatories, 23.
- President of the Department of Charities and Correction, a Municipal Bathhouse Commissioner, 30.
- Professional, definition of, 48.
- Proposed bath on site 100x50, accommodation, 165;—capacity, 165;—design, 168;—heating and ventilating, 167;—laundry, 167;—public lavatory, 166;—water supply, 167.
- Public bath defined, 10;—laws summarized, 29;—movement in New York gives impulse to other cities, 9.
- Public Baths Association of Philadelphia, 65.
- Public baths, establishment of, favored by Committee of Seventy, 22;—free, made mandatory, 31;—free or paid, 10, 11;—imperative need of, 13;—municipal, in America, 11;—permissive act, 30;—plans, 31;—provision made mandatory, 31;—should be partly free, 24;—sites for, 24;—small charge recommended, 19;—urgently demanded in Fifteenth Assembly District, 20.
- Public Charities, Department of, baths at, 42.
- Public comfort station in Tompkins Square proposed bathhouse, 174.
- Public comfort stations, proposed underground, 180;—underground, recommended, 169.
- Public comfort, structures for the promotion of, 31.
- Public conveniences, charge for, 174;—proposed, 178;—provision of, inadequate, 147;—underground, 150.
- Public Health Act, London, 151.
- Public lavatory in proposed bath on site 100x50, 166.
- Public schools, baths in, 66.
- Public Works, Commissioner of, 29;—and public baths, 31, 35;—confers with Mayor's Committee, 163, 179;—in charge of public conveniences, 144.
- Public Works, Department of, 29;—to control floating baths, 28.
- Quincy, Hon. Josiah, Mayor of Boston, appoints bath committee, 6, 63.
- Rain baths, the principal bath maintained by benevolent organizations, 19.
- Rapid transit favored by Committee of Seventy, 22.
- Recorder of New York, a Municipal Bathhouse Commissioner, 30.
- Recreation, lack of, in New York City, 43.
- Reichardt, Anthony, of Tenement House Commission of 1884, 16.
- Rent per room in Fifteenth Assembly District, 20;—statistics of Federation of Churches and Christian Workers, 20.
- Resuscitation of drowned persons, 127;—lessons in, given to police, 44.
- Riverside Association, baths of the, 41.
- Roberts, Robert J., physical director Boston Y. M. C. A., 54.
- Rome, gifts of public baths by citizens, 6;—numerous baths, 28.
- Roosevelt, Theodore, President Police Department, 178;—letter from, 147.
- Roundsmen requested to report available sites for public comfort stations, 178.
- Rules and regulations for bathers, 123;—for washers, 136.
- Ryan, Councilman, on Boston Bath Committee, 63.
- Saloons provide comfort stations, 177;—the only public conveniences now provided, 174.
- Schools, public, baths recommended in, 23;—measures favored by Committee of Seventy, 21.
- Schools Swimming Association, London, 47.
- Second Assembly District, bath for, 30.
- Second Avenue and One Hundred and Tenth Street, vicinity recommended for public bath, 24, 164.
- Separation of State and Municipal

- elections favored by Committee of Seventy, 22.
- Seventeenth Street and the East River, location for floating bath, 29.
- Seventy, Committee of, disbandment, 24;—expresses appreciation of Sub-Committee's study, 24;—nominates Committee of five, 22;—genesis of, 21;—organization of Sub-Committees, 22;—platform of, 21.
- Shaler, Alexander, of Tenement House Commission of 1884, 16.
- Sheffield, urinals and waiting rooms, expenses and receipts, 158.
- Sites for public baths, 24, 164.
- Slums of New York City, baths in, 11.
- Street cleaners affected by lack of public conveniences, 148.
- Snyder, C. B. J., Superintendent of School Buildings, 60.
- Southern Counties Amateur Swimming Association, 47.
- Spray bath, cost of a, 55;—superiority of the, 55;—recommended, 23;—system, economy of, 37.
- Stevenson, Dr. Sarah Hackett, of Chicago, 66.
- Stiles, Commissioner of Park Department, criticizes plans of comfort stations, 179.
- St. John's Guild, baths on the Floating Hospital, 42.
- Strassburg conveniences, 161.
- Street cleaning, thorough system of, favored by Committee of Seventy, 22.
- Strong, Hon. William L., Mayor of New York, 7, 179;—and public baths, 163;—appoints Advisory Committee on baths, 5;—letter from, 25.
- Stuttgart, Germany, public conveniences, 161;—school baths at, 59;—swimming baths at, 64.
- Sub-Committee of Committee of Seventy, preliminary report on baths and lavatories, 5, 23;—recommendations, 23;—studies placed before the Mayor, 24.
- Sub-Committees of Committee of Seventy organized, 22.
- Swimming as part of school curriculum, 53;—as recreation, 43;—bath, comparatively recent institution, 45;—bath, great popularity of, 45;—baths, 120;—baths, recommended by Tenement House Committee of 1894, 19;—clubs, 47;—competitions, 49;—instruction in, 46.
- Switzerland, cost of public school baths, 58.
- Teachers encouraged to learn swimming, 47.
- Temperature as affecting receipts at baths, 103;—in Hamburg baths, 114;—of douche baths, 116.
- Tenement House Commission of 1884, appointment of, 16;—recommendation as to public baths, 16;—work reviewed by Tenement House Committee of 1894, 18.
- Tenement House Committee of 1894, appointment of, 17;—definite opinion on public baths and lavatories, 19;—recommends municipal baths, 18;—report presented to Legislature, 17.
- Tenement house population, baths intended for, 174.
- Tolman, William Howe, 7;—Secretary Mayor's Committee on Baths and Comfort Stations, 25, 164;—Secretary of Sub-Committee on Baths and Lavatories, 22.
- Tompkins Square, lavatory accommodation in proposed bath, 180;—plans for baths in, 6;—proposed bath, accommodation, 170;—proposed bath, design, 172;—proposed bath, heating and ventilating, 172;—proposed bath, laundry in, 174;—proposed bath, objections to, 173;—public comfort station in proposed bath, 174;—site for bath, 24, 33, 164, 169.
- Trenton, N. J., action on public bath question, 67;—Bath Committee appointed, 6.
- Turkish bath, 120, 121.
- Underground conveniences, advantage of, 176;—public comfort stations recommended, 169;—public conveniences, 150.
- Urinals for each policeman's post, 178;—proposed, 178;—proposed, for city properties, 176;—public, a necessity, 142.
- Vienna, conveniences as model, 161;—spray bath system, 37;—urinals and conveniences, 162.
- Washers, average time worked, 135;—caution money demanded, 135, 136;—number of, 141;—tickets, 141.
- Washhouses, public, recommended for tenement house district, 24.
- Washington and Carlisle Streets, vicinity recommended for public bath, 24, 164.
- Water boiled before using for baths, 116;—cost of, in Moabit baths, Berlin, 107;—polo, 49;—supply in bath,

- proposed method of control, 167;—  
supply, in public baths, 172;—sup-  
ply in tenement houses, 17.  
Wayfarers' Lodge, baths at the, 42.  
Wellington, Dr. Gertrude Gall, of  
Chicago, 66.  
Wilson, Hon. Charles C., President of  
the Health Department, confers  
with Mayor's Committee, 177;—re-  
port on baths in lodging houses, 13;  
requests plans for baths, 163.  
Wingate, Charles F., of Tenement  
House Commission of 1884, 16.  
Wolfe, John David, on 1866 Committee  
of Sanitary Inquiry, 142.  
Woods, R. G., on Boston Bath Com-  
mittee, 63.  
Worthing, Turkish bath, 121.  
Wright, Carroll D., Commissioner of  
Labor, report on slums, 11.  
Yard, Hon. Emory N., Mayor of Tren-  
ton, appoints bath committee, 6.  
Yonkers ahead of New York City in  
public baths, 29;—municipal baths,  
61.











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